

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MONTANA

STEVE BULLOCK  
GOVERNOR



Angela McLean  
LT. GOVERNOR

February 26, 2015

Welcome Aviation Conference Participants!

I am pleased to welcome each of you to the 2015 Montana Aviation Conference and to Missoula, Montana, the *Garden City*. Aviation plays an important role in our local communities and economy.

Over the next three days, you will have the opportunity to attend important and meaningful aviation-related breakout sessions, the chance to enjoy notable meal functions, special speakers, and to take part in a variety of social events. Aviation professionals will share their expertise and experience on a wide variety of topics important to the aviation industry. Aviation-related vendors from across the country will also showcase a variety of services and products vital to the aviation industry.

I want to congratulate each of you on the celebration of this 31<sup>st</sup> annual conference. This event would not be possible without the passion and commitment you have for aviation. I truly appreciate your contribution to Montana's aviation industry and wish you the very best on a successful conference. Please enjoy your stay in Missoula.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Bullock".

STEVE BULLOCK  
Governor

MISSOULA, MT  
FEBRUARY 26-28  
2015 MONTANA  
AVIATION CONFERENCE

February 26, 2015

Welcome to Missoula for the 2015 Montana State Aviation Conference

We want to welcome everyone to Missoula for the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Montana Aviation Conference. This year's theme is "Fly the Big Sky" and we are excited once again to host this annual conference that brings aviation enthusiasts to our community. It is a great opportunity to learn new topics, hear about aviation adventures and most importantly have some fun.

This year's speakers bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the conference to share with those in attendance. It is this annual sharing of knowledge and experience, that makes the Montana Aviation Conference one of the best in the nation. This year's keynote speaker is Ron Hooper, Chief Executive Officer of Neptune Aviation. Missoula has a rich history of smoke jumping and firefighting and he will give us the history of Neptune Aviation. Make sure you tour their facility Friday afternoon as they are a great asset to our nation, state and community. The luncheon speakers are Ken Dial and Rich Stowell both of whom have some interesting presentations that will enlighten and entertain. We will have many vendors displaying their products in the exhibit hall, providing everyone with information on the latest and greatest products available for the aviation industry. Please spend some time at the vendor's booths and we want to give special thanks to all the sponsors whose contributions help make this conference a success.

We are confident your visit to Missoula will be an enjoyable experience. Please spend some time enjoying all of the amenities Missoula has to offer and hopefully finding time to sample several of our many microbreweries and distillery's while in town. If there is anything we can do to make your stay or participation in the Conference more enjoyable, please don't hesitate to contact one of the members of the Conference Committee or the Aeronautics Division Staff.

Sincerely,



Brian Ellestad, Chair  
2015 Missoula Conference Committee



Debbie Alke, Administrator  
MDT Aeronautics Division

## General Conference Information

This year's Montana Aviation Conference is co-hosted by the Montana Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division and the following organizations:

**Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)** – since 1959. For anyone interested in sport or general aviation. Promotes building and flying one's own aircraft while maintaining high standards of quality and safety.

**Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA)** – since 1978. For anyone interested in preserving and "Keeping the Antiques Flying" with an appreciation and interest in antique/classic aircraft. Non-pilots welcome.

**Montana Airport Management Association (MAMA)** – since 1958. Formed to provide professional codes and standards for airport management, promote public understanding of the value of aviation and airports to the community, promote high standards of technical operations to ensure safe operation of airports, interchange experiences, and promote development of airports.

**Montana Pilots Association (MPA)** – since 1938. A statewide organization of pilots formed to support and promote general aviation. The MPA functions through a number of local Hangars in various cities in Montana.

**Montana Seaplane Pilots Association (MTSPA)** - since 1992. Organized to promote and protect seaplane activities, provide social activities, advise and assist the National Seaplane Association, and to educate the membership on seaplane safety and noise abatement to create a positive public perception of seaplanes.

### Registration Desk

The registration desk is located in the lobby of the Holiday Inn Downtown. Staff will be available at the registration desk to assist you during scheduled registration and conference hours:

**Wednesday, February 25 - 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, February 26 - 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Friday, February 27 - 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, February 28 - 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

### Registration Fees

A takeoff to landing package may be purchased which includes registration to the conference and all meals; prices are \$160/person or \$310/couple; conference registration fee is \$105/person (includes 1 Friday dinner ticket and 1 Saturday luncheon ticket) or \$200/family (includes 2 Friday dinner tickets and 2 Saturday luncheon tickets). Participants wishing to attend sessions only (with no meals) may do so for \$55/person or \$95/couple. Meal tickets may be purchased separately 48 hours in advance, prices are Thursday luncheon – \$15 per person; Friday luncheon - \$15 per person; Friday dinner - \$30 per person; Saturday luncheon - \$20 per person and Saturday banquet \$35 per person. Please take care to keep event tickets with you, as they will be required for entrance.

### Name Badges

Please wear your conference name badges at all times. Badges are required for entrance to the exhibitor area and concurrent sessions.

### Exhibit Reception/Luncheon and Hours

Registered participants are welcome to attend a cocktail reception and grand opening of the exhibit area sponsored by City Service Valcon/Phillips 66 Aviation in the Big Sky Atrium/Garden City Ballroom D Thursday evening from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. On Saturday a box luncheon will be held in the Exhibit area from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; thousands of dollars in door prizes will be given away during this luncheon. Exhibitors will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding their products or services. The Exhibit area is located in the Big Sky Atrium/Garden City Ballroom D.

### Exhibit Area Hours:

**Thursday, February 26: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Friday, February 27: 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, February 28: 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

### Refreshment breaks

All refreshment breaks will be available in the Exhibit area during the conference.

### Concurrent Session Choices

Each session is filled on a first-come, first-served basis. There should be ample seating, but if a room is filled, please refer to your conference program and attend another session. Sessions that are offered twice are indicated so in the program.

### Emergency Medical Services

In the case of a medical emergency, please advise staff at the Conference Registration Desk, or call the hotel operator by dialing "0".

### Cell phones

As a courtesy to others please turn off cell phones during meals & sessions – thank you.

## Wednesday, February 25, 2015

### 12:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

### Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms

#### Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Registration

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – 8710 Review – Jermev Gouley, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – IACRA – Jeremy Gouley, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

2:00 p.m. – 2:10 p.m. – Break

2:10 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – What's New in Regulations, Policy and Publications –  
Harold Dramstad, MDT Aeronautics

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Operational Limitations – Brent Vetter, Vetter Aviation

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Flight Instructor Ethics & Effective Flight Review –  
Harold Dramstad, MDT Aeronautics

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Dinner – Catered by Holiday Inn

5:30 p.m. – 6:50 p.m. – Security Related Special Use Airspace & SAR in Montana &  
Effective Teaching – Harold Dramstad, MDT Aeronautics

6:50 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – Break

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Single Pilot IFR - Brent Alm, MDT Engineering

8:00 p.m. – 8:50 p.m. – Table Top Discussion of Recent Accidents & Lessons Learned –  
Harold Dramstad, MDT Aeronautics

8:50 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – Review & Testing Phase #1

### 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Holiday Inn Lobby

#### Conference Registration

## Thursday, February 26, 2015

### 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### Holiday Inn Lobby

#### Conference Registration

### 7:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

### Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms

#### Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. – Mountain Flying – Stan Monger, CFII

8:30 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. – Navigation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Harold Dramstad, MDT Aeronautics

9:20 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – Break

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – FAAST – Jeff Vercoe, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. – TSA Annual Recurrent Training – Kim Lund, Transportation  
Security Administration (TSA)

### 8:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

### Montana Boardroom

#### Take Off With Aviation Education – Instructor, Kaye Ebelt, Educator

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. – Introduction to Workshop – Kaye Ebelt

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – How Do Airplanes Fly? – Kaye Ebelt

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Forces of Flight/Control Surfaces – Kaye Ebelt

10:15 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. – Aviation Navigation and Flight Planning – Jeff Kadlec, Yellowstone Airport

## Thursday, February 26, 2015, continued

**11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.** **Garden City Ballroom A, B & C**

**Kick-off Luncheon**

**Master of Ceremonies** – Brian Ellestad, Deputy Director, Missoula Intl' Airport

**Speaker** – Ken Dial – "Bird Locomotion: Conquering Land, Water, and Air"

**Color Guard** – American Legion

**Menu** – Turkey Croissant, Fresh Garden Salad, Home Made Potato Chips, Cookies,  
Coffee & Iced Tea

**1:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.** **Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms**

**Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic**

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – NOAA Weather Briefing – Marty Whitmore, National Weather Service

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. – Runway Incursion and Pilot Deviations – Tammy Kantorowicz,  
Billings Air Traffic Control Tower (FAA)

3:15 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. – Teaching Stall Spin Awareness – Jeanne MacPherson, Mountain Airdance

3:40 p.m. – 4:40 p.m. – Fatal Dual Instruction Accidents – Harold Dramstad, MDT Aeronautics

4:40 p.m. – 4:50 p.m. – Break

4:50 p.m. – 5:20 p.m. – Review & Testing Phase #2

5:20 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Critique, Graduation & Certificates

**1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.** **Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

**FAA Listening Session**

Dave Suomi, Deputy Regional Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

**1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.** **Montana Boardroom**

**Take Off With Aviation Education – Instructor, Kaye Ebel, Educator**

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – Soaring – Jim Jonas, Glider Pilot

2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Conference Break and Exhibitor Tour

2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Aviation Careers - Military, Commercial and Search & Rescue –  
Pete Graf, Civil Air Patrol (CAP)

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Aviation Stations – Kaye Ebel & Stefani DeMars, MDT Aeronautics

**1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** **Holiday Inn Lobby**

**Conference Registration**

**2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** **See location below**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**International Travel/General Aviation** **Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

Ken Huber, US Customs and Border Protection

**Fun Places to Fly your Airplane in America** **Madison Room**

Joe Kuberka, Blue Goose Aviation

*Please Note: This session will be offered again on Saturday, February 28 from 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Garden City Ballroom A*

**3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.** **See location below**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Checkrides: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly** **Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

Mike Vivion

*Please Note: This session will be offered again on Saturday, February 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in Garden City Ballroom A*

**Back in the Wild Blue – 379<sup>th</sup> BG Continued** **Madison Room**

Larry Chambers, Aviation Art Forms

*Please Note: This session will be offered again on Friday, February 27 from 2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Garden City Ballroom A*

## Thursday, February 26, 2015, continued

**3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.**

**Garden City Ballroom A**

Montana Airport Management Association (MAMA) Business Meeting

**5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Big Sky Atrium/Garden City Ballroom D**

Exhibitor welcome and exhibit hall kick-off

Refreshments/Exhibitor Awards – come help us celebrate 31 years!

Sponsored by: City Service Valcon/Phillips 66 Aviation

## Friday, February 27, 2015

**6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.**

**Brooks & Brown Room**

Montana Community Airport Association (MCAA) General Membership Breakfast Meeting

**7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Holiday Inn Lobby**

Conference Registration

**7:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms**

**Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar & IA Renewal**

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. - Mechanics Registration

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. – Spark Plug Design & Maintenance - Vince Bechtel, Tempest Plus

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. – Vacuum Pumps & Pneumatics Systems – Vince Bechtel, Tempest Plus

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - Break

10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. – Service Publications, New Products, Maintenance Updates –  
Brian Costello, Lycoming Engines

*Please Note: Date and time for speakers at Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar & IA Renewal are subject to change without notice. Total training hours for Friday, February 27 = 8 hours*

**8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

**Garden City Ballroom A**

**Hot Topics in Business Aviation & General Aviation Issues**

Bob Lamond, National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) and

David Ulane, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)

**8:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.**

**Montana Boardroom**

**Take Off With Aviation Education – Instructor, Kaye Ebel, Educator**

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Set up Aviation Stations for Students

9:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. – 7th grade students will rotate between stations, flight simulator, computer

weather, balsa airplane flying, aerodynamics station and others – nothing but fun and educational.

Flight Simulator – Cliff Carpenter and Jeff Simmons, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

**8:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Brooks & Brown Room**

**Montana Community Airport Association (MCAA) Technical Session**

8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. – Powder River MOA Update by USAF – LTC James R. Ross, Jr.,  
28<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – UAS Operations in the National Airspace – Michael Dement-Meyers,  
ANM 200 NextGen, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 – Break

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – New Regs on Airport Fuel Systems – Breezy Burlison, City Service Valcon

**8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.**

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

**TSA Precheck and Secure Flight**

Dan Fevold, Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

**8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Big Sky Atrium/Garden City Ballroom D**

Display Area Open – Refreshments served at 8:30 a.m.

## Friday, February 27, 2015, continued

**9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**See location below**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Commercial Air Service Update**  
Mark Sixel, Sixel Consulting

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

**Volunteer Flying for Conservation**  
Ryan Boggs, LightHawk

**Madison Room**

**10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**See location below**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**In to Africa**  
Jeanne MacPherson, Mountain Airdance

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

*Please Note: This session will be offered again on Saturday, February 28 from 1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms*

**Social Media Crisis Communications**  
Katie Jones, Sixel Consulting

**Madison Room**

**11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Garden City Ballrooms A, B, C**

**Awards Luncheon**

**Master of Ceremonies:** Peter Gross, Montana Seaplane Pilots Association

**Speaker:** Rich Stowell - "I Pilot – My Branch on Aviation's Family Tree"

**Color Guard:** American Legion

**Menu:** Chicken Caesar Salad, Cookies, Coffee & Iced Tea

**1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Holiday Inn Lobby**

**Conference Registration**

**1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**See location below**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Montana Air Traffic Control**  
Scott Buchanan and Tammy Kantorowicz, Billings Air Traffic Control Tower, FAA

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

**Meet ACRP (and learn what you've been missing!)**  
Christy Yaffa, Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP)

**Madison Room**

**1:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Downtown Missoula Scavenger Hunt!**

**Spouse/Guest Scavenger Hunt** – Participants will mosey through Missoula's downtown area exploring unique businesses and identifying landmarks to complete a questionnaire. Completed questionnaires will be included in a raffle for prizes. Please meet in lobby of Holiday Inn at 1:45 p.m.

**2:00 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.**

**Montana Boardroom**

**Take Off With Aviation Education – Instructor, Kaye Ebelt, Educator**

2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – 40<sup>th</sup> Helicopter Squadron Mission and Search & Rescue –

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Matthew Thompson, United States Air Force, Malmstrom AFB

2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Aviation Weather/Preflight/Weight Balance/Traffic Pattern – Kaye Ebelt

3:30 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. – Break

3:40 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Flight Instruments/Radio Communications - Harold Dramstad,  
MDT Aeronautics

**2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Big Sky Atrium/Garden City Ballroom D**

**Display Area Open – Refreshments served at 2:00 p.m.**

## Friday, February 27, 2015, continued

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### 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms

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#### **Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar and IA Renewal**

- 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Continental Starter Adapter Service Problems & Maintenance – Roger Fuchs, formerly with ECI
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. – Aviation Consulting - Engine Modifications Major/Minor Alteration or STC? – Roger Fuchs, formerly with ECI
- 4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – Break
- 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – Propeller Maintenance & Repair, Service Bulletin Updates – Joe Westby, Northwest Propeller
- 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Federal Aviation Administration Mechanics Listening Session – Patrick MacQuarrie, Helena FSDO Manager, FAA

*Please Note: Date and time for speakers at Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar & IA Renewal are subject to change without notice. Total training hours for Friday, February 27 = 8 hours*

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### 2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. See location below

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#### **Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Back in the Wild Blue – 379<sup>th</sup> BG Continued**

Larry Chambers, Aviation Art Forms

**Garden City Ballroom A**

#### **ADS-B: 3 Years Flying with ADS-B In/Out in Montana & Beyond**

Bryan Douglass

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

#### **EAA Open Forum**

Clayton Wilhelm and Tom Wrobel, Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)

**Madison Room**

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### 3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

#### **Concurrent Session**

**See location below**

#### **Learn to Turn**

Rich Stowell, Rich Stowell Consulting

**Garden City Ballroom A**

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### 4:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Northstar Jet & Neptune Aviation

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**Neptune Aviation Tours, Static Display & MPA/RPA Hospitality** - Buses will begin a rotation leaving Holiday Inn Downtown curbside beginning at 3:30 p.m. and take participants to Neptune Aviation for guided tours and to the static display at Northstar Jet where a hospitality event will be held hosted by the Montana Pilots Association and Robert Peccia & Associates. Buses will then take participants back to hotel for dinner/entertainment with final buses departing from static display/tours at 6:00 p.m.

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### 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Garden City Ballroom A, B & C

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**Dinner/Entertainment – Two complimentary drink tickets and dinner are included in the registration packet to those registered and paid for the entire Conference.**

**Menu:** Classic Italian – Fresh Garden Salad with Italian Dressing, Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad, Roasted Egg Plant, Rolls with Butter, Italian Sausage Lasagna, Linguini Alfredo with Shrimp, Cheesecake, Coffee & Hot Tea.

**Entertainment by:** Tom Catmull – live acoustic music

## Saturday, February 28, 2015

**6:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms**

**Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar and IA Renewal**

6:30 a.m. – 7:00 a.m. – Mechanics Registration

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. – Jeff Vercoe & Bryan Hanson, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. – Break

8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. – Jeff Vercoe & Bryan Hanson, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. – Recurring Service Pubs, Trouble Shooting, Lycoming Resources – Brian Costello, Lycoming Engines

10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Break

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. – Avionics Issues Pertaining to Aging Aircraft – Steve Vold, Aerotronics

*Please Note: Date and time for speakers at Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar & IA Renewal are subject to change without notice. Total training hours for Saturday, February 28 = 8 hours 15 minutes*

**7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Holiday Inn Lobby**

**Conference Registration**

**8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**Garden City Ballroom B & C**

**Montana Pilots Association (MPA) Annual General Membership Meeting**

**8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Missoula Int'l Airport/Museum of Mountain Flying**

**Takeoff With Aviation Education** – Field trip to Missoula International Airport & Museum of Mountain Flying

**8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Big Sky Atrium/Garden City Ballroom D**

**Display Area Open – Refreshments served at 8:30 a.m.**

**9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**

**See location below**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Checkrides: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly**  
Mike Vivion

**Garden City Ballroom A**

**Flying by Night: Montana's Historic Airway Beacons**

John Axline, MT Department of Transportation, Environmental Services

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

**10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**See location below**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Fun Places to Fly in your Airplane in America**

Joe Kuberka, Bluegoose Aviation

**Garden City Ballroom A**

**Aviation Insurance Claims**

Tracy Barrus, QBE Aviation Insurance

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

**11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Big Sky Atrium/Garden City Ballroom D**

**Luncheon Menu:** Deli sandwich, Fruit, Cookie, Potato Chips, Bottled Water or Soda

Luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and is free to those registered for entire Conference.

Thousands of dollars of door prizes to be given away.

**1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms**

**Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar and IA Renewal**

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Today's Lycoming Engine Overhaul Experimental and Certified Categories – Loren Lemen, Ly-Con Rebuilding

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Today's Continental Engine Overhaul Experimental and Certified Categories – Loren Lemen, Ly-Con Rebuilding

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. – Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Care of Aviation Spark Plugs – Shane Rampy, Champion Aerospace

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Jeff Vercoe & Bryan Hanson, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

*Please Note: Date and time for speakers at Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar & IA Renewal are subject to change without notice. Total training hours for Saturday, February 28 = 8 hours 15 minutes*

## Saturday, February 28, 2015, continued

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**1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**See location below**

*Concurrent Sessions*

**The “Backcountry” the Best Way to Approach**

Patrick Romano, Recreational Aviation Foundation (RAF)

**Garden City Ballroom A**

**In to Africa**

Jeanne MacPherson, Mountain Airdance

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

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**2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Montana Boardroom**

**Aviation Organizations of Montana (AOM) Business Meeting**

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**2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**See location below**

*Concurrent Sessions*

**Kitfox (Experimental) Flight to NE US & Newfoundland**

Don Lorenzen, Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)

**Garden City Ballroom A**

**Alaska Flight Service and Satellite Tracking:**

**New Ways to Call for Help**

Tom George, Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association (AOPA)

**Yellowstone/Glacier Rooms**

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**3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Madison Room**

**Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Board Meeting**

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**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

**Montana Boardroom**

**99’s Business Meeting**

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**3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Madison Room**

**Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Business Meeting (anyone is welcome)**

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**5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Garden City Ballroom A, B & C**

**No Host Hospitality Hour**

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**6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

**Garden City Ballroom A, B & C**

**Banquet**

**Master of Ceremonies:** Steve Rossiter, Aviation Organizations of Montana (AOM),  
Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)

**Speaker:** Ron Hooper, Chief Executive Officer, Neptune Aviation –  
“History of Neptune Aviation”

**Color Guard:** American Legion

**Menu:** Prime Rib of Beef, Baked Potato with the Works, Salad, Seasonal Vegetable,  
Rolls with Butter, Cheesecake, Coffee & Hot Tea

## Speakers

**Brent Alm** – Brent is a pilot flying a Turbo Aero Commander for the Montana Department of Transportation. Brent earned an Associate of Aviation Technology degree from San Juan College in Farmington New Mexico. He has been flying commercially since 2001. His pilot ratings include Airline Transport Pilot, multi-engine, commercial and instrument rating. Brent has accumulated over 7000 hours having flown Part 121, 135 and part 91 in Beech 1900s, CRJs, Twin Cessna's and a Turbo Commander. He has flown in two pilot crew and single pilot operations serving as a first officer, captain and check airman. Brent is currently working and living in Helena, MT.

**Jon Axline** – Jon has been the historian at the Montana Department of Transportation since 1990. When not sweating over the state's historic roads and bridges, he conducts cultural resource surveys and writes the MDT's roadside historical and geological interpretive markers. Jon is a regular contributor to *Montana Magazine* and *Montana the Magazine of Western History*. He is also the author of *Conveniences Sorely Needed: Montana's Historic Highway Bridges*, editor of *Montana's Historical Highway Markers* and the forthcoming *Taming Big Sky Country: A History of Montana Transportation from Trails to Interstates*, which will be published by The History Press in the spring of 2015. Jon lives in Helena with his wife and 3½ Corgis.

**Tracy Barrus** - Tracy received a B.S. degree in Aeronautical Technology from Utah State University and a law degree from the University of Utah, where he served as Executive Editor of the Utah Law Review. Following a clerkship for Judge J. Blaine Anderson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Tracy entered private practice, specializing in aviation law with the firm of Karr Tuttle Campbell in Seattle. After eight years at Karr Tuttle, Tracy left private practice to manage the independent adjusting firm of Rosemergy & Co., which handled aviation insurance claims primarily for London underwriters. He later formed the adjusting firm of Barrus & Stiger, Inc. He is currently employed as Western Regional Claims Manager for QBE Aviation in Boise, Idaho. Tracy is a member of the Washington, Idaho and Utah state bar associations. He has been a licensed pilot since 1975, a licensed A&P mechanic since 1977, and the proud owner of a 1964 S model Bonanza since 1994.

**Ryan Boggs** – Ryan is the Chief Program Officer for LightHawk. In that capacity, he guides the strategic vision and direction for the programs of the organization and oversees six program staff that work to implement the vision. As acting Rockies Director of Conservation, Ryan is piloting a new approach of project based work for LightHawk that will help pave the way to increasing LightHawk's effectiveness. Ryan brings a wealth of conservation experience to LightHawk. He served as executive director of Legacy Land Trust from 2009 to 2013, helping to preserve farm, ranch and natural lands in northern Colorado. He oversaw all aspects of organizational management and development for the Land Trust including staff hiring and development, board management, financial management and fundraising. During his tenure, he closed seven conservation easement deals with a diversity of landowners, including ranchers, businessmen, and others, which included complex negotiations, document drafting, relationship management, and data management. His prior conservation work also includes nine years with The Nature Conservancy starting at Phantom Canyon Preserve in the Laramie Foothills area of Colorado and later serving as a project director the Aiken Canyonlands, Chico Basin, and Upper Purgatoire areas. As an experienced wildland firefighter, he worked on forest and fire restoration as well as land protection issues. Ryan received his B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University and is a native of Fort Collins where he enjoys woodworking, climbing and running.

**Scott Buchanan** – Scott is a FAA Air Traffic Controller in Billings Montana, he is from Longview Washington. He joined the Marine Corps after high school, became a Marine Air Traffic Controller, and served 2 tours overseas. After the Marine Corps, Scott returned to overseas air traffic control with Midwest ATC. In 2010, Scott was given the opportunity to come home to his family and start a career with the FAA.

**Breezy Burlison** – A graduate of Oklahoma State University, Breezy joined CSV Aviation fuels in 1998 and brings over 40 years' experience in the petroleum industry. From an early age, Breezy exhibited a keen mechanical ability and today applies his skills in solving the toughest technical and equipment issues from the refinery to the aircraft wing. Breezy covers airport fuel operations in the northern Plains/Rockies region as well as western Canada. His duties include fuel farm and refueler truck inspections, line service personnel training along with new/used fuel system parts and refueler truck sales. In his spare time, Breezy enjoys family time with his grandchildren, hunting, fishing as well as work on his hobby farm.

**Larry Chambers** – After a lifetime with North American Aviation and Rockwell, Larry retired to Dillon in 1990. He has had a second career in Aviation Art Prints, putting him in close touch with most of his heroes from WWII. He has studied the aviation aspects of that conflict all his life. Larry is fascinated with the Eighth Air Force and the B-17 Flying Fortress in particular. His research for Art Prints has unearthed many strange and interesting stories surrounding that conflict, as well as sacrifice and courage beyond belief.

## Speakers, continued

**Brian Costello** – Brian lives in Arlington, WA. He has worked in General Aviation full time in maintenance, modification, and flight test and development roles since 1980 and with Lycoming since 1996. Brian worked as a Lycoming Field Service Engineer since 1996 then transferred to Sales in early 2014. He is an FAA A&P, Commercial Pilot with CFI certificates with SEL, SES and MEL ratings. Brian owns a Piper PA-16 'Clipper' currently under restoration.

**Mike DeMent-Myers** – Mike is an Aviation Safety Inspector for the Federal Aviation Administration and a specialist in unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the Univ. of California Riverside. Post-graduation he entered U.S. Air Force Undergraduate Pilot Training with follow-on assignments to Clark Air Base-Philippines, and Laughlin AFB-Texas as a T-38 inspector for advanced jet training. Following active duty he transitioned to the Air Force Reserves flying C-5's and the HH-60G where he flew for 13 years as a Search and Rescue Pilot, out of Portland Oregon. In addition to his Air Force career Mike flew for two major airlines, US Airways and Northwest Airlines. After retirement from the Air Force he flew the ScanEagle UAS off of Navy ships as contractor in the Arabian Gulf and Southern Philippines. Prior to joining the FAA in 2011 Mike was a test pilot for Northrup-Grumman's Global Hawk UAS program at Edwards Air Force Base.

**Ken Dial** - Ken has been a Pilot since 1981 he is an ATP (airline transport pilot), multiengine, instrument, and commercial rated, jet pilot and flies about 250 hours per year. Evolutionary questions in animal design, transitional stages of locomotor development, allometry of behavior, life history biology and ecology are Ken's primary areas of interest. Moving beyond untestable hypotheses and unfruitful discussions of the origin and evolution of birds is one of his passions at this time. Exploring the mechanistic basis as to why small animals behave and locomote differently than larger species is another area of interest of Ken's. The Flight Laboratory at the UM Field Station at Fort Missoula enjoys generous space and the equipment necessary to explore how animal's move.

**Bryan Douglass** – Bryan earned his pilot certificate in 2008, having been around aviation his entire life but finally getting around to scratching the itch. Deciding that flying was for him, he started building an RV-10 in July 2009, completing it in early 2012. The timing was perfect for installing the new ADS-B system as the equipment was available, the technology was being rolled out nationwide, and he was building his instrument panel. Since the first flight in February 2012 the RV-10 has been coast to coast, Canada to Mexico in some of the busiest and most vacant airspace in the country. Over 600 hours of flight has given him a good perspective on the ADS-B system, both in Montana and in all types of airspace and terrain.

**Harold Dramstad** - Harold was recently hired at the MDT Aeronautics Division as the Bureau Chief of the Safety and Education Bureau. Harold grew up in Kalispell and received degrees in Chemistry and Biology from the University of Montana. He worked as a smokejumper for the U.S. Forest Service and moved to Helena in 1988. He worked as a ticket agent for Horizon, Delta, and SkyWest airlines. His first solo was August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003, and he has worked as a fulltime flight instructor since 2006. He holds an ATP certificate and flew as a copilot for the Governor's Office on the King Air.

**Kaye Ebelt** - Kaye is continuing her Einstein Fellowship in Washington, D.C. for a second year at the National Science Foundation in the Engineering Directorate in the Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation Division. During her first year she became well versed in additive manufacturing (3D printing), the engineering design process and presented at numerous engineering educational national conferences. She is currently writing an activity book on 3D printing for the K-12 classroom and a guide to assist grantees with engineering education outreach. Ebelt earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana, a Master of Education with a Computer Technology emphasis from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a Master of Science in Science Education with a Physics, Geology and Astronomy emphasis from Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. Ebelt was among the first group of teachers to be selected from Montana to participate in NASA's MicroGX and Reduced Gravity Flight in 2011. She and her team designed and engineered a liquid density experiment suitable for microgravity. She earned national recognition by receiving the A. Scott Crossfield Award in 2003 and was also inducted into the Crown Circle for Leaders in Aerospace Education in Cincinnati, Ohio. Montana Aeronautics also recognized her efforts by awarding her the Aviation Educator of the Year in 2001. Kaye has been involved in aerospace and aviation education since she visited Kennedy Space Center and attended Space Camp in 1993. In the years since that visit, she has developed an interest in flying and pursued a private pilot's license and ground instructors rating. Since moving to D.C., Kaye has become an active member of the Skyline Soaring Club in Front Royal, Virginia and began flying gliders. This past summer she soloed in the ASK-21, Grob and Sprite gliders and was introduced to glider aerobatics. She is currently preparing for a checkride to earn her Private Pilot Glider rating.

## Speakers, continued

**Daniel Fevold** – Mr. Fevold is the Federal Security Director (FSD) at Billings Logan International Airport (BIL). He has been in the position since May 2004, which includes oversight for three-CAT-IIIs, four-CAT-IIIs, and eight CAT-IV airports. Mr. Fevold joined the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in October of 2002 as the Assistant Federal Security Director of Screening for eastern Montana. Prior to joining TSA, Mr. Fevold worked for the airline industry for approximately 15 years, holding various positions including Regional Manager for Air Wisconsin in Denver, Colorado, and General Manager in several cities for United Airlines. He also served in various other capacities for United Airlines, such as Security Coordinator for the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Senior Staff Representative for World Headquarters and Hearing Officer on a national basis for union grievances. Mr. Fevold has specialized training and experience in the areas of ground security and national incident management. In addition, he holds membership with the Assistant Administrator's Advisory Council (AAAC), Executive Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and Montana's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (ATAC). Mr. Fevold is a graduate of Babson College Executive Training which he completed in October 2007. During his free time, he enjoys fishing, hunting and other outdoor activities.

**Roger Fuchs** – Roger is an FAA Designated Engineering Representative for piston engine design and service data, including major repairs and alterations, repair specifications, and propeller governor setting changes. He has worked as a machinist, mechanic, Maintenance Instructor, Chief Inspector and Technical Representative in general aviation since 1975. Past employers include Aircraft Engine and Engine Component's, Inc. Roger was appointed a company DER in 1992 and has been a consultant DER since 2007. He has held an FAA Mechanic's Certificate since 1977 with both airframe and powerplant ratings.

**Tom George** – Tom serves as the Alaska Regional Manager of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. He works with government agencies and industry groups to promote general aviation on behalf of AOPA members in Alaska. Mr. George serves on the State of Alaska Aviation Advisory Board, the Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation board and a number of other advisory groups. Prior to working for AOPA, he was employed by a research institute at the University of Alaska Fairbanks working in the satellite remote sensing field. He owns a small business that acquires aerial photography for scientific and industrial applications with his Cessna 185.

**Peter G. Graf** - Pete grew up in New Jersey but followed his high school guidance counselor's advice quoting Horace Greeley and the young man went west to the University of Montana. He graduated in 1971 from the University with a BA in Biology and from AFROTC as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. Pete began a 28-year career in the Air Force on 16 June 1971 by attending Undergraduate Pilot Training. He worked about half of his career in the cockpit flying the T-38 Talon supersonic jet trainer, T-39 Saberliner, UH-1 "Huey" Helicopters, and the C-23 Sherpa. He flew the Huey at Malmstrom AFB where he instructed search and rescue as well as mountain flying techniques. He also worked in the supply career field for about 12 years. Pete's last and best three years in the Air Force were at the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) at Langley AFB, VA, where he was a controller supervisor and for a short time, the Commander. Pete retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Afterwards Pete lived in Bozeman for 2½ years and was a full-time flight instructor and charter pilot, as well as a Civil Air Patrol instructor and check pilot, and squadron commander. He moved to Missoula in December 2001 and began his current flying with SkyWest Airlines in January 2002. Captain Pete commands the 50-, 70-, and 90-seat Canadair Regional Jets throughout most of the continental United States and numerous Canadian cities. He retired in March 2014 per FAA mandate. During his last two years on Air Force active duty Pete was selected to teach at the Montana Search Pilot Clinic as an Electronic Locator Transmitter (ELT) instructor. He brought a wealth of knowledge with him from his leadership and personal experience in the Air Force and AFRCC as well as his hands-on flying experience as an Air Force helicopter pilot and Civil Air Patrol fixed-wing pilot performing rescue operations in service to America. Pete was checked out in 2011 by Dave Hoerner to instruct CAP pilots at this clinic in mountain search procedures. Pete currently lives in Missoula with his wife, Susan. Pete's CAP grade is Lt Col and he's the Director of Operations for CAP in Montana. Pete has numerous "saves" to his credit as an Air Force and CAP pilot and as an AFRCC rescue controller. He's a current CFII, MEII, and Helicopter CFI with more than 17,200 flying hours.

## Speakers, continued

**Ron Hooper** – Ron is the Chief Executive Officer of Neptune Aviation Services. Ron spent 41 years working for the United States Forest Service (FS). His first 10 years with the FS were spent in the wildland firefighting. Ron then spent 20 years as a Contracting Officer for the FS and that included performing as the Contracting Officer on the FS large airtanker contracts. He then advanced into leadership positions with the FS including being the National Director of Contracting and finally retiring as the Associate Deputy Chief for Business Operations. Ron also spent one year on loan from the FS to work on Senator Conrad Burns' personal staff handling natural resource issues for the Senator. After retiring from the FS, and doing independent consulting for a year, Ron came to work at Neptune Aviation in February, 2012 as the company's Vice President for Business Development. Six months later Ron was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer for Neptune Aviation Services. Ron is a 1975 graduate of the University of Utah and completed graduate work at the University of California-Chico.

**Kenneth Huber** – Ken is the Supervisor at the Great Falls Area Port for Customs and Border Protection, where he was assigned to in February of 2012. He currently supervises five area airports in Montana as well as the area ports Mission Support office. Supervisor Huber also oversees port budgets and is the CMIS coordinator of the AOR. He also is the facilities and property manager for the AOR as well as the local POC for the hands Across the Border team. Previously, he was assigned to the Blaine port of entry. During that time he served as the port Intelligence officer, NEXUS enrollment supervisor, scheduling officer, and scheduling supervisor being responsible for the scheduling of over 200 officers and support staff. During that time Supervisor Huber also worked at Eastport and Porthill, ID, Pt. Roberts, WA, and pre-clearance in Shannon Ireland. Supervisor Huber started his career in 1998 with the Immigration and Naturalization Service graduating at the top of his class. Prior to that, he spent 10 years in the U.S. Army in Aviation and Heavy Equipment maintenance. Supervisor Huber was born and raised in Seattle, WA and has been married for 26 years and has one child who recently graduated from Western Washington University.

**Jim Jonas** - My memories of aviation span back to a young age when I would spend weekends at the local airport while my father instructed. I was always trying to convince whoever happened to be there to take me flying. In my teens, my father started to give me instruction, but he was too nervous to let me solo. When he was diagnosed with cancer, we stopped flying and took up remote control airplanes. When my father died of cancer, I needed to step away from aviation as it was something we did together. For many years, I was not involved with aviation in any way. It was a Father's Day gift (a remote controlled aircraft) that rekindled my passion for aviation. I quickly immersed myself in RC flying of all kinds including: engine-less flight (thermal and slope soaring), small electrics, and giant-scale gas. I competed in RC aerobatics for a few years and recently provided a demonstration of RC flight at the Deer Lodge airport during Territorial Days. About six years ago, my passion for flight led me to Boulder, CO (near where I was living at the time) that offered glider lessons. With the challenge of engine-less flight came a great sense of accomplishment. In 2012, I purchased a single-seat sailplane and I am enjoying being an aircraft owner. I consider myself a novice pilot with endless enthusiasm to become a safer and more knowledgeable pilot. I am the vice chairman for the Anaconda airport board. To fund my flying, I am an environmental engineer working on remediation issues in the Upper Clark Fork Basin. I live in Opportunity, MT with my wife and daughter.

**Katie Jones** – Katie is the Director of Business Development for Sixel Consulting Group, a nationally recognized air service development and marketing firm. She was most recently the company's Marketing and Public Relations Manager, and joined the team after more than six years with San Diego International Airport (SAN). At SAN she performed public outreach for the airport's major initiatives, including the billion-dollar Green Build expansion program. Katie brings extensive knowledge in public relations, community outreach and social media. Her campaigns have been recognized nationally in both the aviation and public relations fields, garnering awards such as the 2014 Edward L. Bernays Mark of Excellence Award in Community Relations; a 2012 ACI-NA Marketing and Communications Award – Public Relations Campaigns; a 2012 Gold SABRE Award – Government Agencies; and a 2011 Silver Anvil Award from the Public Relations Society of America in Community Relations. In 2012, she was named one of Airport Business magazine's "Top 40 Under 40." Katie has spoken to numerous airports, businesses and organizations about the benefits of social media, including Airports Council International - North America, American Association of Airport Executives, and San Diego Urban League. Katie lives in San Diego with her husband David and their son Luke.

## Speakers, continued

**Jeff Kadlec** - Jeff has been the Airport Manager at Yellowstone Airport for the past 2 years. He and his family are originally from Chicago, IL. Jeff received his Bachelor of Science degree from Arizona State University and previously worked in Airside Operations at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. He is also a Certified Flight Instructor and holds numerous other Pilot Certificates, Ratings, and Endorsements. Jeff and his family are excited to now reside in Montana and they take advantage any chance they get to tour the State's great outdoor activities.

**Tammy Kantorowicz** - Tammy served in the Navy as an air traffic controller. She was stationed at NAS South Weymouth, MA and NAS JRB New Orleans, LA. Tammy was hired by the FAA in 1998. She has worked as an air traffic controller at Cape Cod TRACON, MA and Salt Lake City TRACON, UT. She is currently an operations supervisor at Billings Air Traffic Control Tower, MT and an adjunct professor at Rocky Mountain College teaching Introduction to Air Traffic Control.

**Joe Kuberka** – Joe started flying in northern Minnesota in 1978. He then attended the University of North Dakota from 1979 to 1982 graduating with a BSPA in Aviation Administration and earning his Private, Commercial, Instrument, Instructor, Multi Engine and Glider ratings at the University. He joined and has been active with AOPA since 1979 and EAA since 1982. In 1983 Mr. Kuberka joined the United States Air Force and flew for 20 years as an Air Force pilot. He flew B-52 bombers, and KC-135 tankers for major weapon systems. He also spent two tours at the USAF Academy selecting which cadets would be Air Force pilots and teaching basic airmanship. Major Kuberka taught the mountain flying course to Academy instructor pilots and checked out as a Montana Mountain Search and Rescue Pilot. He also attended the Air Force Aircraft Accident Investigation Course and held a safety officer designation for over 10 years. Duties in this area lead to teaching numerous classes on cockpit resource management and risk management. Joe earned a Master of Aeronautical Science from Embry riddle Aeronautical University in 1994. During his entire Air Force career he maintained his civilian ratings and owned an aircraft since 1988. Continuing to increase his own knowledge of aviation he added an instrument instructor rating, glider instructor rating and sea plane rating to his license. He is an aviator with over 8000 hours that loves to instruct, while promoting safety to other pilots. Since retirement from the Air Force, Mr. Kuberka has developed a self flying guided mountain air tour allowing pilots to gain mountain flying experience while vacationing in the Rocky Mountains.

**Robert “Bob” G. Lamond Jr.** – Bob is NBAA's director, air traffic services & infrastructure. In this capacity, he coordinates issues concerning air traffic services, airspace management, the FAA/Industry Collaborative Decision Making (CDM) Process, various RTCA, and other, work groups, aviation weather, and air traffic system modernization (NextGen), as these areas relate to business aviation. Lamond holds FAA private pilot, tower operator and radar specialist certificates. Prior to joining NBAA in 1999, he gained more than 18 years of experience in air traffic control, airspace and airport management during his 22-year career in the United States Air Force, when he was stationed in various locations throughout the United States and Europe. Lamond currently serves on a variety of national level working groups ranging from the FAA Aviation Rulemaking Committee for Unmanned Aircraft Systems to implementation of the FAA's NextGen programs. He currently serves as the Industry Co-Chair on the RTCA Tactical Operations Committee (TOC) Western Regional Task Group (TG) and is a member of the TOC, TOC NOTAM Improvement TG, TOC VOR Minimum Operations Network TG, and the TOC 20:1 Visual Area Surface TG. In addition, his leadership has been a key element in business aviation's inclusion into the FAA's Traffic Flow Management arena through the FAA/Industry Collaborative Decision Making process.

**Don Lorenzen** – Don has been a Private pilot since 1973, and 30+ year EAA member. He is a dedicated homebuilt aircraft builder; Don has built a Dragonfly [composite], Kifox-IV, and is currently building a Cygnet SF-2A. He has degrees in Computer Science and Forestry, and has been employed by State Farm insurance/Bloomington, Ill, as a programmer and commercial underwriter for 33+ years. Don is a resident of Missoula, and is married with 2 children.

**Jeanne MacPherson** – Jeanne is a Master CFI- Aerobatic, she has been flying throughout the Northern Rockies for over 24 years. As a former Chief of the Safety and Education Bureau, Aeronautics Division, Montana Department of Transportation, Jeanne coordinated air search operations, promoted aviation education, and taught mountain flying for over 16 years. Prior to working for the State of Montana, Jeanne was a freight pilot, and flight instructor. She is a commercial pilot and CFI-I with SEL, MEL, and SES ratings.

**Stan Monger** – Stan is a CFII and lives in Lewistown. He is a commercial pilot with experience tracking grizzlies in Yellowstone National Park. He flies a C-180.

## Speakers, continued

**Patrick Romano** – Patrick always knew he wanted to fly. So it was not a surprise to anyone when he took his first lesson at age 14 and started instructing by the time he was 18. After a decade of flying everything from helicopters to business jets, he had to get a real job. He is now operating several Domino's Pizzas in the Denver area. Patrick and his wife Lindsey enjoy flying the backcountry. He is still an active instructor and in his spare time he consults on all things backcountry related with his company Backcountry Aviation LLC.

**Lieutenant Colonel James Ross, Jr.** – Lt. Col. Jim Ross is an Assistant Director of Operations, 28<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron, Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. The squadron is responsible for all aspects of flying operations support for the 28<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing. Lieutenant Colonel Ross received his commission from Officer Training School, Maxwell AFB Ala. in May 1997. During his career, he has filled numerous training, staff and flying positions including T-37 evaluator pilot and squadron executive officer at Columbus AFB, Miss.; instructor pilot, chief of safety and flight commander, 37<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.; initial qualification course evaluator pilot, flight commander, director of flying, 28<sup>th</sup> BS, Dyess AFB, Texas; and chief of flight safety, 7<sup>th</sup> BW, Dyess AFB, Texas. Prior to arriving at Ellsworth AFB, he served as the director of the 7<sup>th</sup> BW staff at Dyess AFB, Texas. Lieutenant Colonel Ross is a Command Pilot with 3,000 total hours including 775 combat hours. He has instructed in the B-1 and the T-37.

**Mark Sixel** – Mark is a nationally recognized leader in air service development. Mark has represented hundreds of airports of varying sizes at airline corporate headquarters, industry conferences and at local community forums. He has also been a featured speaker at numerous aviation conferences, both on the regional and the national level, and is frequently asked by regional and national media from around the nation for his expert views on the industry. Mark has developed strong, personal relationships with top airline route decision makers and continues to work with them on behalf of airports across the country. Mark holds a Master Degree in Business Administration from the University of Texas in Austin, and a Bachelor of Science in Geography from the University of Arizona in Tucson.

**Rich Stowell** - Rich is the 2014 National FAA Team Representative of the Year as well as the 2006 National Flight Instructor of the Year. He took his first flying lesson in 1982 and began his career as a full-time instructor in 1987. Rich has authored three aviation textbooks and more than 75 articles published in various aviation publications. He has conducted more than 300 aviation related seminars. An eight-time Master Instructor, Rich was designated the country's first Master CFI-Aerobatics in 2001 and has served on the Master Instructors, LLC Board of Review ever since. He is a Charter Member of the Society of Aviation and Flight Educators and a 30-year member of AOPA, EAA, and IAC. Rich will be speaking twice on Friday, providing the luncheon keynote and a safety seminar.

**David Suomi** – David is currently the Deputy Regional Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Northwest Region. In this capacity, he, and the Regional Administrator serve as the principal representatives of the FAA Administrator and the senior FAA officials in the region. They provide corporate leadership in cross-organizational matters and represent the FAA within industry, the public and governmental organizations. David serves as the US Department of Transportation (DOT) Regional Transportation Coordinator (RETCO) designated to carry out critical functions for DOT in response to disasters as documented in the National Response Framework. Prior to his current role, Mr. Suomi served as the national Manager of the FAA's Airport Improvement Program, a \$3.6 billion (annual) infrastructure grant program to aid airport owners finance critical aviation infrastructure. Prior to his FAA roles, Mr. Suomi served in a variety of senior executive roles associated with private and public-sector aviation management positions. He was vice president of BAA USA, Inc., the United Kingdom private sector airport company that owns and operates London Heathrow, and other major aviation facilities around the world. Mr. Suomi is an accredited aviation professional with responsibilities including liaison with governmental officials, Airport Improvement Program oversight, facility safety, emergency preparedness and response, security and operations, community relations, and stakeholder relations and facility development. An accredited executive with the American Association of Airport Executives, Mr. Suomi has served as officer and/or board member in various state aviation organizations, functioned as a university instructor in Airport Development and Operations, holds a pilot certificate, has written articles and papers on airport issues, and speaks on various airport/airline subjects around the country. Mr. Suomi received a Bachelor's Degree in Aviation Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and has completed graduate work at the University of Central Florida, State University of New York, University of Pennsylvania, and George Mason University. He and his wife Carol have four children, and they live in Normandy Park, Washington.

## Speakers, continued

**David R. Ulane, A.A.E.** - As the Northwest Mountain Regional Manager for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Dave is responsible for AOPA's state and local legislative and governmental affairs, along with general aviation advocacy and member outreach on behalf of over 34,000 AOPA members in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. He joined AOPA in December of 2011 with 23 years of aviation experience in the Northwest Mountain Region. Prior to joining AOPA, Dave served over six years as the Assistant Aviation Director at the Aspen/Pitkin County (Colorado) Airport. He also previously managed the St. George (Utah) Municipal Airport and the Yellowstone Regional Airport in Cody, Wyoming. Dave began his aviation career in 1989 at Denver's Centennial Airport, where he held a variety of airport operations positions. Dave has a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management from Metropolitan State University of Denver, and is an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.). He has served the Northwest Mountain Region in a variety of aviation leadership roles, including President of the Northwest Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) and President of the Wyoming Airport Operators Association. An AOPA member since 1989, Dave is a seaplane rated private pilot, currently flying a Cessna 172 and Cirrus SR20. Dave and his wife Janet, also a pilot, reside in Spokane, Washington and own a 1949 Piper Vagabond presently undergoing restoration.

**Jeff Vercoe** - Jeff started flying in the early 80's and turning wrenches on aircraft in the late 80's. He has his A&P, IA, pilot certificate with an instrument rating and senior parachute riggers cert. Jeff started with the FAA in 2002, in Cleveland Ohio, while there he was a Principal Maintenance Inspector. In 2010 he moved to Montana and became the FAA Team program Manager.

**Brent Vetter** - Brent is a DME, designated mechanic examiner, CFI, and A&P mechanic with an IA. He and Rosie have been in business at Vetter Aviation for 18 years.

**Mike Vivion** - Mike grew up in Montana, but learned to fly in Hawaii in 1969, and his first checkride experience wasn't the prettiest. He is a graduate of the University of Montana with a degree in Wildlife Biology. He served as a Wildlife Biologist and Airplane Pilot in Alaska for nearly 30 years, working and flying in many remote parts of Alaska. After his retirement from the Fish and Wildlife Service, he accepted a position at the University of Minnesota, teaching and advising in the aviation program there. Mike "re-retired" in 2013, and he and his wife Gina moved to Bozeman, Montana, where they currently reside. Mike has been a flight instructor for over thirty years, and has written for numerous aviation publications. He has been a regular presenter at Montana Aviation Conferences for over ten years.

**Marty Whitmore** - Marty has been with the NWS around 24 years, most of which have been in Missoula, but there were short stops in Yakima, WA and Boise, ID as well. While at NWS Missoula he has held positions as General Forecaster, Senior Meteorologist, Fire Weather Program Manager, and Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM). As the WCM, one of Marty's primary roles is to establish, maintain, and strengthen working relationships with core partners such as emergency managers, the media, airport managers/operations, emergency responders, land managers, safety officials, etc. Marty earned degrees in Atmospheric Sciences and Physical Oceanography from the University of Washington.

**Christy Yaffa** - Christy is a Program Manager for the Airports Planning and Programming program of the Wyoming Department of Transport Aeronautics Division. Ms. Yaffa's areas of responsibility include airport planning, environmental analysis, land acquisition, state system planning, the Wyoming Aviation Capital Improvement Program (WACIP), the Aeronautics Commission Loan Program, and the airports grant program. She joined the Division in 1994 as a planning intern and has held the positions of Assistant Airports Planner, Planner, and Senior Planner. Ms. Yaffa is a graduate of the Prescott, Arizona, campus of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and holds a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Business Administration.

## 2015 Scholarship Recipients



**A Love of Aviation (ALOA) Scholarship** - An anonymous donor established this scholarship of \$250 in 1997, in 2011 two more anonymous donors joined in the scholarship creating a \$750 scholarship. This year's recipient is **Alex Koch of Helena**. Alex is a Private Pilot, Montana native, and a student at Rocky Mountain College. He previously earned his Associate of Applied Science degree in Aviation Maintenance Technology graduating with honors from Helena College in the spring of 2014. He is currently pursuing an Instrument Rating. Next semester he will start training for his Commercial certificate. When he graduates Rocky he will have his

Commercial, Multi-Engine, and CFI certificates and ratings. He plans on pursuing a job at Rocky as a Flight Instructor. His future career goals are to get a job at a bush/air-taxi service in Alaska or a regional airline. From there he plans to progress to a major airline.



**AOM Flight Training Scholarship** – AOM has established this \$500 scholarship to financially assist a student pilot in obtaining their private pilot certificate. This year's scholarship winner is **Brendyn Hewitt of Great Falls**. Brendyn has been flying back and forth from parents to parents since he was 2 years old and that has been a major factor in his love for aviation. He is currently looking in to ground school at Holman Aviation in Great Falls and would like to begin classes this year. He was blessed to fly a Cessna 172 at Dover AFB aero club this past summer and it further fueled his love for flying. He has a 3.3 GPA at Great Falls High School is enrolled in both honors Math and English as a freshman. In middle school he was inducted into the National Juniors Honor Society and received

the Presidential Award for academic achievement. Brendyn plans to attend the University of North Dakota to major in Commercial Aviation.



**Blue Goose First Generation Flight Scholarship** - Joe and Kathy Kuberka offer a \$1,000 value scholarship to be flown at Blue Goose Aviation in Polson (either 5 hours dual in a Cessna 182 or 8 hours dual in a Cessna 150). This scholarship is designed to assist a person who has a love of aviation, yet had limited exposure to aviation, someone from a non-aviation background/family. This year's recipient is **Ian White of Three Forks**. In addition to the Blue Goose Scholarship Ian is also the recipient of the **Montana Pilots Association (MPA) Junior Pilot Award** - This recipient is chosen for outstanding interest in aviation, citizenship within their community and demonstrated academic achievement. The recipient must be a

Montana resident and previously soloed. Preference is given to younger applicants who are new pilots or pursuing a profession in aviation. This is a \$1,000 scholarship. Ian is enrolled in the Gallatin College at Montana State University in Bozeman. His major is in Aviation but technically his degree will be an Associates of Applied Sciences. He is still considering all routes of aviation as options for a career. He wants to get his Instrument rating as well as High Performance, Complex, and Commercial ratings. Ian graduated with honors from Three Forks High School in 2014. To date he has logged 50 hours of total flight time, passed his written exam and is now preparing for his private pilot check ride. In addition to school Ian also works at Worldwide Flight Services (WFS) at the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport.

**Bob Redding Memorial Scholarship** – EAA Chapter 57 in Billings is offering a scholarship in memory of Bob Redding who was a lifetime advocate of general and experimental aviation. Building aircraft was as important to Bob as flying them and, given his tenure as a college math professor, so was education. This \$500 scholarship is offered to those working towards their A&P license, first generation pilot training, or any post-secondary STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) degree. This year's scholarship goes to **Walter Johnson of Colstrip**. While living in Utah he participated in a program that offered ground lessons and one free flight. The moment that Cessna 172 left the ground he was in love, he wanted to fly every single day. He got a student loan and continued with his flight training. As a Part 141 student he made it through the Jeppesen Coarse checkride with his written exam passed all he needed was to pass his FAA checkride. Unfortunately he was laid off from his job in Utah. He then found a job in his home state of Montana, where he is an Operator's Apprentice at the Colstrip Power Plant. It has been a year since his last flight and he desperately wants to get his license. He hopes to one day fly for a living and is searching for a way to accomplish that dream.

## 2015 Scholarship Recipients, continued



**EAA Missoula Chapter 517 Scholarship** – EAA Missoula Chapter 517 provided three \$1,000 scholarships in 2015. One for post-solo flight training; one for a second year A&P student; and one to be used for any type of aviation career training. The EAA post-solo flight training goes to **Kyle McMillan of Laurel**. Kyle is about to take his final written to achieve his Private Pilot's License. He has 42 hours of complex time. He is a senior at Laurel High School with a 4.2 GPA, 4 year honor roll, AP Credit, and may various multiple activities. Most of his free time is spent with school, extra-curricular activities, work and aviation. He hopes to apply all of his knowledge and experience towards a safer industry and advancing his dream of becoming an airline captain. The second year A&P Scholarship goes to **Sierra Juliano of Circle**. Sierra is majoring in Airframe and Power plant (aviation maintenance) at the Helena College. In May, 2013 she attended an open house in Glasgow and received a flight in a Cessna 172. This helped solidify her decision on a future career, and she has been in love with flying and aircraft ever since. After finishing the two year aviation program she plans on getting her pilots license and specializing in avionics. Sierra completed her first semester at Helena College with 21 full time credits and a 3.1 GPA. This scholarship will help her towards the accomplishment of finishing school without debt. The third scholarship goes to **Brody Severson of Stevensville**. Brody is a junior in high school. He has had an interest in aviation ever since he listened to his great-grandpa's stories about flying during World War II, and he has pursued that interest in full during the past two years. He had his first solo shortly after his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, and this year earned his private pilot's license shortly after turning 17. He is now planning to become tailwheel rated, and instrument rated before graduating high school. He eventually wants to become a licensed commercial pilot, but first he is going to college to become an A&P mechanic. He is on the honor roll at Stevensville High School, and currently holds the position of president of the Barnyard Bunch 4-H club, and also holds a membership with EAA Chapter 517.



**Edwards Jet Center Scholarship** – Edwards Jet Center a full-service fixed base operator and Part 135 charter operator based at Logan International Airport in Billings offers this \$500 scholarship to help defray the costs of flight instruction. This year's recipient is **Nathan Luibrand of Helena**. Nathan is currently enrolled in his first year of the Aviation Maintenance Technology program at Helena College. He has maintained a 4.0 GPA through all of his 21 credits his first semester. He also has his private pilot certificate and about 110 hours of total flight time. He hopes to get a job in aviation maintenance for a few years after he graduates and his long term goal is to become a missionary pilot serving in remote areas of Africa.



rotorcraft pilots license.

**Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Scholarship** – MAAA offers a \$1,000 scholarship to help defray the costs of flight instruction. This year's scholarship goes to **Wyatt Ayers of Bozeman**. Wyatt has wanted to be a pilot ever since he was in kindergarten. Wyatt works two jobs and attended college full time last year. He has maintained a GPA of 3.2 while working and logging over 110 hours of flight time. Wyatt has his private pilot's license but when he was half way through his instrument training he ran out of money. His greatest hope is to continue with his aviation education. He would like to obtain his instrument rating, become a commercial pilot and a certified flight instructor. He eventually wants to learn to fly helicopters and earn his



**Montana Air Safety and Education Foundation (MPA ASEF) Flight Training Scholarship** - This \$1,000 scholarship is open to an active pilot who has considerable interest in aviation and is seeking advanced flight training or pursuing a profession in aviation. The applicant must be a Montana resident. This year's recipient is **Richard Wissenbach of Pinesdale**. Richard has had a life-long aviation passion. He has held an Airframe and Powerplant license since 1985, Inspection Authorization since 1999 and is currently employed by Aircraft Structural Repair in Stevensville. In April, 2013 he obtained his Commercial Pilot's License. In order to obtain a job as a pilot he needs an instrument rating. His ultimate desire in addition to flying the Idaho Backcountry is to teach short field, backcountry type flying. In his spare time he is rebuilding a 1960 Cessna 182C.

## 2015 Scholarship Recipients, continued



**Parrott Family Scholarship** – The Parrott Family offers this \$1,000 scholarship to be used over a one-year period for pilot training programs for students enrolled in the Rocky Mountain College (RMC) aviation program. The funds may be used for tuition in the RMC aviation program, and/or flight training expenses leading to a Private, Commercial, or Flight Instructor Certificate, and may include Instrument and Multiengine simulator training, and the purchase of aviation related materials and related supplies. This year's scholarship goes to **Jeremy Downs of Missoula**. Jeremy's desire is to be an aerial firefighter. In the summer of 2012 he attended the Aviation Career Exploration Academy sponsored by the MDT Aeronautics Division. After attending he was certain he wanted a career in aviation. He graduated from Eagle's Flight Home School academy in December 2013 with a 3.88 GPA and started attending Rocky Mountain College this past fall. While at Rocky he has achieved his goal of getting his Private Pilot's License. In the spring term he plans on obtaining his Instrument Rating and continuing his sophomore and junior years to acquire his Commercial License, Multi-Engine Rating, and Flight Instructor Certificate. Upon graduating Jeremy hopes to secure a position flying regional jets, cargo, or possibly agricultural aircraft in order to acquire the necessary flight hours and skills needed to afford him a career as an aerial firefighter.



**Theresa (Nistler) Cooley Scholarship** – Mountain AirDance Flight Training (Jeanne MacPherson and Bill Gallea) and Vetter Aviation (Brent and Rosie Vetter) offer this \$1,000 scholarship in memory of Theresa (Nistler) Cooley who passed away from Leukemia (AML) in February, 2012. Theresa loved flying and was working towards her private pilot certificate. This scholarship will be awarded to a student pilot who is working on getting their private pilot rating. This year's recipient is **Kelsey Schmidt of Columbus**. Kelsey is a 17 year old senior and attends Columbus High School. He has a 3.91 GPA and enjoys math and science classes and is involved in many extracurricular activities. She is currently working on obtaining her private pilot rating and has been flying out of Billings, Laurel and now Columbus. She soloed in November and has about 25 hours of time. She wants to somehow incorporate flying in to her future career as she plans to enter the medical field. Regardless, she will continue to fly no matter what!

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***Special thanks to Morrison-Maierle Inc. for conference signs,  
conference logo and program cover design.***

Graphic designer Alisa Etzel designed this year's Montana Aviation Conference logo. Originally hailing from Columbus, Montana, Alisa graduated from Northwest College in Powell, Wyoming, with a degree in graphic design. She lives on her mini-farm in Park City, Montana, with her husband and two children. She works in Morrison-Maierle's Billings office as the Senior Graphic Designer and is in charge of designing and developing the company's office and corporate communication pieces. She enjoys the daily challenge of bringing art, color, and graphics to the "black-and-white" world of engineering. She particularly enjoys bringing the engineers' visions and ideas to life.

## Exhibitors

ADB Airfield Solutions  
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Aerospace Turbine Rotables Inc.  
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Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association (AOPA)  
Air Traffic Control Tower  
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Angel Flight West  
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Cryotech Deicing Technology  
Dowl  
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Idaho Aviation Association  
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## **In Memory**

This page is dedicated to the memory of those loved ones that have passed away and to those of us left behind who miss them.

**Frank Bass**

**Marcia Edsall**

**William "Bill" Fairhurst**

**Ronald Gipe**

**Barbara "Barb" Hall**

**Harold "Bud" Hall**

**Duane Hodgkinson**

**Robert "Bob" Koch**

**Richard "Buck" O'Brien**

**Robert "Bob" Redding**

**"We toast our hearty comrades who have fallen from the skies, and  
were gently caught by God's own hand to be with him on High.  
To dwell among the soaring clouds they've known so well before.  
From victory roll to tail chase, at heaven's very door.  
As we fly among them there, we're sure to hear their plea.  
To take care my friend, watch your six, and do one more roll for me."**

*— Commander Jerry Coffee, Hanoi, 1968*

**For those whose names we have omitted our sincere apologies.**

RiverBend Restaurant Brooks & Brown

To Outside

Men's  
Women's

Gallatin

Jefferson

Madison

National Parks Rooms

Montana Boardroom

Glacier

Yellowstone

Vending Room

Elevator

To Rooms

Upper Lobby

Big Sky Atrium

Main Entry

Front Desk

Garden City Ballroom

D

C

B

A

Service Hallway

Executive Offices

Business Center

Holiday Inn



Three Rivers Meeting Area





