



## Jim Lynch Named DOT Director



*Director, Jim Lynch*

Jim Lynch, appointed by Governor Brian Schweitzer, began his new position as the Director of the Department of Transportation on Jan. 3.

Lynch, 50, comes to MDT from Oldcastle Materials NW Group in Kalispell where he was the public policy advisor. Previous to that he was the president and CEO for Pack and Company in Kalispell for 15 years and spent eight years as the general manager of Highway Maintenance for Johanson Construction in Spokane.

Lynch is a private pilot with airplane single and multi engine land ratings, instrument rating and a helicopter rating. He graduated from Gonzaga Prep in Spokane and received his bachelor's of science degree from Kean University in Union, New Jersey.

Lynch has served on multiple transportation related organizations and boards including DUI task forces, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce transportation committee, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, EIS process for Highway 93, Kalispell transportation study, and the Kalispell Airport Authority.

He and his wife, Pam, have two sons and one daughter.

## Prominent Aviators to Address Aviation Conference

### *Jim Tucker*

James Morgan Tucker, born 1951, went to college looking at a law career before a carrier aviation poster in the recruiter's office caught his eye. In the Navy, he flew two carrier tours in A7s, stateside he flew as a weapons instructor and a combat maneuvering instructor in the A-4. After the Navy he flew B-737s for People Express. In 1984, he started flying B-727s with FedEx, then advanced to DC-10s, becoming captain, check airman/flex instructor in the DC-10.

Jim is the featured speaker at the Saturday evening banquet, come and listen to his inspirational story on the attempted hijacking of FedEX 705. With his right side paralyzed, Jim Tucker and the other two severely injured pilots fought heroically to

*continued page 4*



# Administrator's Column

**Committee Appointments:** The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation will see Senator Ted Stevens, (R-AK) replace Senator John McCain (R-AZ) as Chairman. The committee is responsible for aviation policy in the Senate. Senator Conrad Burns serves on the important aviation subcommittee. Senator Max Baucus is the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee and Montana's U.S Representative Dennis Rehberg serves on the US House of Appropriations Committee. Montana is very fortunate to have these three gentleman serving our needs in key positions in Washington DC.

**More Capitol Hill News:** Republican leaders in the House created a new, permanent Committee on Homeland Security, which will have responsibility over the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). The Committee – with primary jurisdiction over the counterterrorism mission of the Department of Homeland Security and government-wide homeland security policy generally – represents the most significant reorganization of national security jurisdiction since 1947. The Committee Chairman is Representative Christopher Cox (R-CA). Representative Don Young of Alaska, who is a pilot and good friend to aviation, previously chaired the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee that was responsible for TSA.

**Access to FAA Facilities:** In response to a question asked of Rear Adm. David Stone, chief of the Transportation Security Administration at AOPA Expo, inquiring into the security reasons for barring pilot access to FAA offices, AOPA President Phil Boyer received the following answer from the FAA's security office. Under the current "code yellow" (elevated) threat alert, flight service stations should still be open to walk-in briefings (unless there is a specific threat at a specific facility). Pilots should also be allowed access to air traffic control facilities for operational purposes. That would include tours and Operation Raincheck (FAA safety) programs, but access is dependent upon the availability of FAA personnel to conduct the tours. Access to FAA facilities will be more restricted or prohibited if the threat level is raised to code orange (high) or red (severe).

**Airline Investigation Ordered:** Airlines left thousands of travelers stranded during Christmas week as Comair and US Airways cancelled flights and lost thousands of bags. Comair serves Helena and did cancel flights for more than a few days. Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta has directed the DOT Inspector General to investigate what went wrong during that week. The airlines pointed to computer problems and an alleged sickout by employees as the reasons for the cancellation of some 1,100 flights.

**Report of General Aviation Security Released:** The U.S. General Accountability Office (GAO) the investigative arm of Congress released its long-awaited report on general aviation security last month. The report states that "the small size, lack of fuel capacity, and minimal destructive power of most general aviation aircraft make them unattractive to terrorists and, thereby, reduce the possibility of threat associated with their misuse." In conclusion the report acknowledges that continued partnerships between the GA industry and the government-such as AOPA's Airport Watch Program and NBAA's TSA Access Certificate Program (TSAAC) are extremely important to the success of efforts to enhance security at general aviation airports.



## *Montana and the Sky*

Department of Transportation

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

Jim Lynch, Director

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# Calendar

**January 21-23, 2005** – Surratt Memorial Winter Survival Clinic. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**February 5 & 6, 2005** – Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**March 3-5, 2005** – Montana Aviation Conference, Butte. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**March 10-12, 2005** – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual International Women in Aviation Conference, Dallas, Texas. For further information call WAI at (386) 226-7996 or visit the web site at [www.wai.org](http://www.wai.org).

**March 14-16, 2005** –Aeronautics Board Meeting. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**May 21-22, 2005** – First Annual Fly2Fun Fly-In, Linn County Fair & Expo, Albany, Oregon, adjacent to Albany Airport. For further information email [Fly2FunEvent@aol.com](mailto:Fly2FunEvent@aol.com) or call Gwen Graham at (503) 381-0997. Additional details of this event are on the organizations website at [www.Fly2Fun.org](http://www.Fly2Fun.org).

**May 27-29, 2005** - Benchmark Annual Work Session.

**May 27-29, 2005** - Spotted Bear Annual Work Session.

**June 5, 2005** – Airshow Malmstrom Air Force Base featuring the Thunderbirds.

**June 17-19, 2005** - Meadow Creek Annual Work Session.

**June 17-19, 2005** - Fort Peck Airport (37S). Frank Bass Fathers Day Pancake Breakfast. Friday: Cow Creek Fly-in Saturday: Boating, kayaking on Missouri River with Lewis and Clark History, Summer Theater BBQ evening. Sunday: Frank Bass Annual Fathers Day Pancake Breakfast. Contact Russ Dahl, Sec. MPA Valley Hangar, 406-228-4686, email: [nemt1150r@yahoo.com](mailto:nemt1150r@yahoo.com) or visit their website at [www.montanapilots.org](http://www.montanapilots.org).

**June 30-31, 2005** – Mountain Madness 05 Airshow. Glacier International, Kalispell. Featured acts include The Blue Angels, Pietsch Brothers, Jim Franklin, Schocklee Jet Truck, Gordon Bowman Jones Announcing and some war birds.

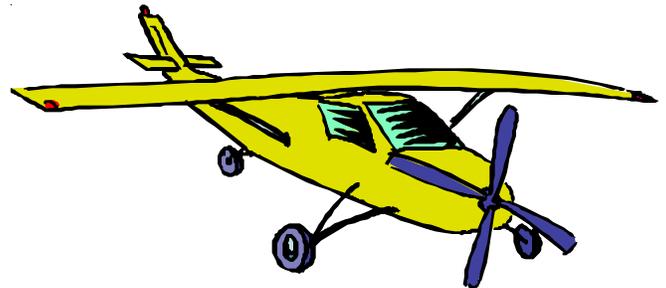
**July 15-17, 2005** - Schafer Meadows Annual Work Session.

# BIG NEWS

**Monte Blain Memorial Scholarship** – The Blain family has established a \$500 scholarship for a person interested in an aviation career. The applicant must have a connection to a current Association of Montana Aerial Applicator (AMAA) paid member. For application details and further information contact Linda Blain at (406) 962-3218 prior to January 22, 2005.

**Sweepstakes** - EAA Chapter 517, Inc. is running a SWEEPSTAKES as a fundraiser. The Grand Prize is a 1997 Kitfox Model V that is just beautifully constructed. Please see details on their website at [www.eaa517.org](http://www.eaa517.org).

**Attention All Pilots:** Roundup Airport now has av-fuel available with a 24-hour card system.



MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program or activity of the Department. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request. For further information call (406) 444-6331 or TTY (406) 444-7696.

## Aeronautics Mechanics Seminar & IA Renewal

The Montana Aeronautics Division is pleased to announce the 2005 Mechanics Seminar & IA renewal will once again be held in conjunction with this year's Montana Aviation conference in Butte MT.

The dates for the conference are March 3-5, 2005. The Mechanics Seminar will be held on Friday March 4 and continue through Saturday March 5.

We will be offering six hours of training on Friday and a full eight hours of training on Saturday. This has worked out well in the past for those mechanics only wanting to attend on Saturday but still needing the training to update their IA for renewal. Mechanics attending this year's seminar will be required to register for the Aviation Conference. The registration fee will be \$55.00. This allows you to attend all concurrent sessions, morning and afternoon coffee breaks with snacks, Friday night dinner dance and the Saturday luncheon. Or if only attending the 8-hour Saturday session, a \$15.00 day pass may be obtained. Make plans now to attend, to discuss and learn the latest in aircraft maintenance.

**TENTATIVE SPEAKERS:** Teledyne Continental Motors – Loren Lemen; Garrett Aviation – Gil Ewan; Engine Components Inc.-Roger Fuchs; American Bonanza Society-Neil Pobanz; Precision Airmotive-Alan Jesmer; B&S Aircraft Parts & Accessories-Cliff Ives; Champion Aviation Products-Dick Johnson; Lawson Products-Len Tallo; Honeywell Chadwick-Jim Ramsey; Bell Helicopters-Jim Szymanski; Northwest Propeller-Dick Jacob; Steve Jones & Staff – Helena FSDO

# Prominent Aviators continued...

subdue their hijacker. At all cost, they had to stop him from using the fully-loaded, fully-fueled DC-10 as a dive bomb. Using his one good hand, Jim drew on all his Navy experience flying A-4s and A7s to muscle the jumbo jet into maneuvers it was not built to do. If successful, his aerobatics could throw the attacker off his feet. Soon blood and carnage covered the cockpit, and the area beyond. The three wounded pilots fought their able bodied attacker with all they had left, all the way to the ground.



## *Sarah Rhoads*

Sarah Rhoads, Lieutenant, United States Navy will kick-off the conference as the featured speaker at Thursday's luncheon. Lieutenant Rhoads was raised in Butte, Montana, and graduated from Butte High School in 1995. She attended the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and graduated with Merit in May 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. Lieutenant Rhoads reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida, in July 1999 and began Aviation Preflight Indoctrination (API) later that summer. Upon completion of API she reported to VT-6 at NAS Whiting Field, Florida, where she completed Primary Flight Training in the T-34C "Mentor". In July 2000, Lt. Rhoads reported to V-21 at NAS Kingsville, Texas, where she progressed through intermediate and advanced jet training in the T-45A "Goshawk".

In June 2001, Lt. Rhoads completed the course of instruction at Kingsville and was one of the first students selected to fly the new F/A-18F Super Hornet. She reported to VFA-122 in Lemoore, CA, and completed the FRS syllabus in April 2002. Lt. Rhoads joined "The Fleet" in May 2002, when she reported to the Black Aces of VFA-41. Lt. Rhoads has accumulated over 1,000 flight hours, over 800 hours in the F/A-18F, and over 200 carrier arrested landings. She flew 37 combat missions and 150 hours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. You won't want to miss this "local hero's" amazing story of success.



## *Dan Hargrove*

Dan Hargrove, Director of Aviation at Rocky Mountain College will be the featured speaker at the Friday afternoon awards luncheon. Before he retired from the Air Force in the Spring of 2003, he was the Deputy Operations Group Commander at Andrews Air Force Base, where he was second in command of 600 personnel and 37 aircraft including Boeing 757, 737, 707; Gulfstream III, IV, V; DC-9; and UH-1N Huey helicopters, with the mission of providing air transportation for the Vice President, First Lady, President's cabinet, and Congress worldwide. As a pilot, Dan commanded many missions in the Boeing 757 over seven years for both the Clinton and Bush administrations.

Dan is a fifth generation Montanan, and loves everything about aviation and Montana.

A reminder that Butte is hosting several other events during the aviation conference and lodging is expected to fill up fast. If you haven't already done so make your room reservations today by calling the Copper King Lodge at (800) 332-8600 or (406) 494-6666 ask for group block **AA05**. Rooms have also been blocked for conference participants at the Comfort Inn (800) 442-4667; Hampton Inn (800) HAMPTON; BW Butte Plaza Inn (800) 543-5814; Red Lion (800) 443-1806; Holiday Inn Express (800) 377-8660. We would encourage all attendees to make their reservations before February 1, 2005 after which these room blocks and rates will drop and you will be at the mercy of availability only.

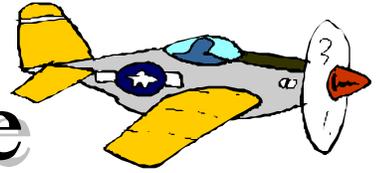
You will find a conference registration form on page 5 of the newsletter and on our web site [www.mdt.state.mt.us/aeronautics](http://www.mdt.state.mt.us/aeronautics). All meal tickets must be purchased 48 hours in advance and remember that those that pre-register are eligible for a special drawing.

The conference committee is working hard to ensure that this year's conference has something for everyone and will certainly be a conference you won't want to miss!! For further information or if you have any questions please call Patty Kautz, Conference Coordinator at (406) 444-2506 or email [pkautz@mt.gov](mailto:pkautz@mt.gov).

# Montana Aviation Conference

## March 3-5, 2005

## Copper King Lodge



### NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SPEAKERS

**SARAH RHOADS, BUTTE NATIVE, F-18 PILOT - THURSDAY LUNCHEON**  
**DAN HARGROVE - - EXPERIENCES FLYING THE VICE PRESIDENT,**  
**FIRST LADY & CABINET MEMEBERS - FRIDAY AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
**& SATURDAY BANQUET – FEATURING AN AVIATION GREAT**  
**YOU DEFINITELY WON'T WANT TO MISS!**

**MEALS: MUST BE reserved 48 hours in advance – Thursday Kick Off Luncheon must be reserved prior to the Conference. Please note requirements below when reserving meal tickets.**

**2005 CONFERENCE CO-SPONSORS**  
**MAAA, MAMA, MATA, MPA**  
**& MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION**  
**TEAR OFF AND MAIL REGISTRATION TODAY**



**MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE – March 3-5, 2005**

Mail to:  
Montana Aeronautics Division  
P.O. Box 200507  
Helena, MT 59620-0507  
(406) 444-2506

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

**NAMES OF PARTICIPANT(S) (for name tags)** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS, CITY, STATE ZIP & PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

Your Organization Affiliation:  
(choose one only for nametag)  
MPA \_\_\_ MATA \_\_\_ MFF \_\_\_  
MAMA \_\_\_ 99S \_\_\_ MAAA \_\_\_  
EAA \_\_\_ AMAA \_\_\_ CAP \_\_\_  
MSPA \_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING RESERVATIONS  
NOTE: **Meal tickets must be purchased 48 hours in advance.**

**TAKEOFF TO LANDING PACKAGE**  
**(INCLUDES REGS. & ALL MEALS)**  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$105/PERSON \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$200/PERSON/SPOUSE \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
-OR- REG. FEE \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$55/PERSON \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$100/FAMILY \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Friday Dinner/Dance \_\_\_\_\_ @ FREE \$ FREE  
\*\*Saturday Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ @ FREE \$ FREE  
Saturday Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
**MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION**

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL ATTEND THE FREE FRIDAY DINNER/DANCE AND FREE SATURDAY LUNCHEON WITH NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUIRED- PERSON/SPOUSE AND FAMILY RATE INCLUDES 2 DINNER/DANCE & 2 SATURDAY LUNCH TICKETS - ADDITIONAL TICKETS MAY BE**

# Montana Mourns the Loss of Beloved Friends

James H. Bastiani, Clifford D. Lincoln and Brandon J. Speth died in an aircraft accident in the Bridger Mountains near Bozeman on December 4, 2004.

Jim spent his whole life sharing his love of flying with others. He would talk about it intimately with anyone, whether a close friend or a stranger who just taxied up, and he would always jump at the chance to go flying. His passion was insatiable. Always exploring the limits of the aircraft, as well as his abilities, he was a lifelong student and an amazing instructor. Though he always had fun and played when he was flying, his true skill showed in subtlety and finesse. His wisdom and spirit, so generously shared, affected us all.

Cliff lived his life on a family farm near Springhill. After returning home from the Army in 1966 he attended Airframe Mechanics School in Helena. He was dedicated to the farm he grew up on and to working on airplanes. He was especially pleased to serve as crew chief on two F100 jet fighters in Bozeman and two in California. Cliff died doing what he loved most, FLYING.

Brandon loved to work and was a lifelong entrepreneur, venturing into ranching, real estate development, and his greatest passion, aviation. Everything Brandon did was big. He formed strong friendships and is remembered and loved by many as a sweet guy with a little bit of rebel woven in. All who knew him remember his big smile.

Our deepest sympathy to the families of these “aviation greats” they will be truly missed.

“The air up there in the clouds is very pure and fine, bracing and delicious. And why shouldn’t it be? — it is the same the angels breathe”. — *Mark Twain, ‘Roughing It,’ Chapter XXII, 1886.*

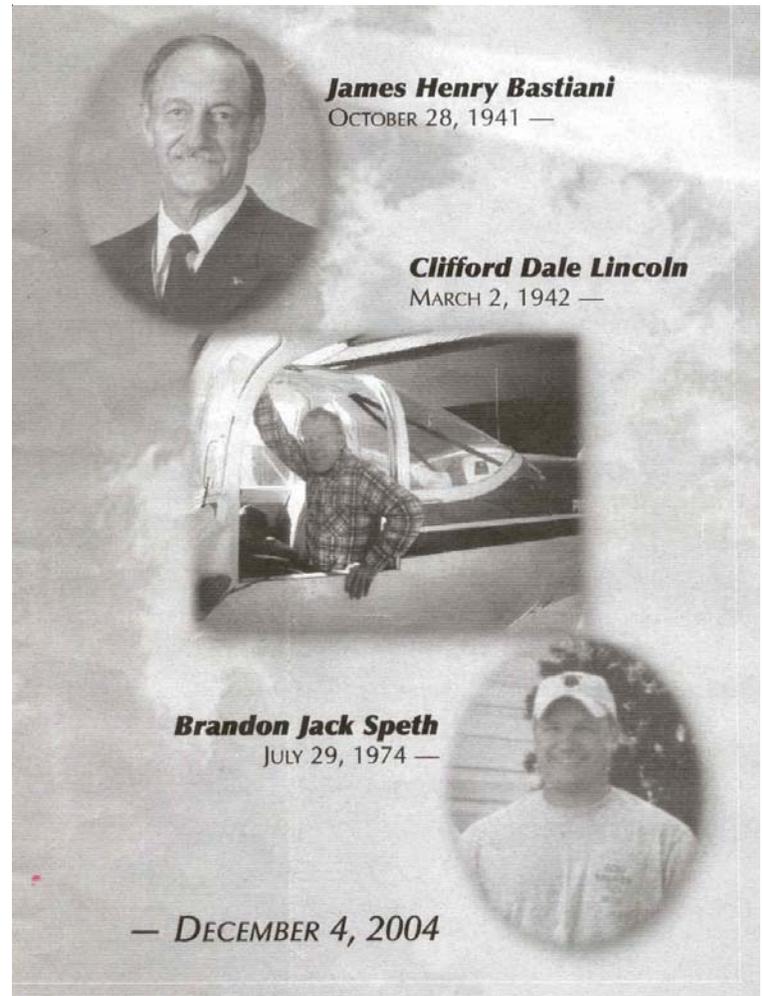
## Flying for the Future!

Silver State Helicopters has opened for business at the Bert Mooney Airport in Butte. Silver State began in 2001 in Nevada and now has 15 locations in Nevada, California, Utah, Arizona, Colorado and now, Butte.

Students interested in becoming a commercial helicopter pilot can attend Silver State’s academy with the firm paying the costs, working out a monthly payment plan after completing the course and gaining employment. The ground school lasts 3 months with FAA flight simulators that a student must master before ever flying a real helicopter. The pilot course involves 12-18 months of evening classes of two nights/three hours each with students setting their own schedule with instructors. Training is done in at least two different helicopters, the R-22 and the R-44.

While Silver State does not promise employment they do hire almost every graduate of their program as an instructor in their schools. They train them beyond the “minimums”, because they will be flying for Silver State in Silver State’s aircraft.

We were recently given a tour of Silver State’s facilities by Dick Krott, Manager of the Montana firm. This business is important to economic development in Butte and we wish them great success. For more details on Silver State Helicopters, call 1-888-91-pilot. Their web site is [www.silverstatehelicopters.com](http://www.silverstatehelicopters.com).



*Pictured are Dave Fine, Gene Hughes, Rick Griffith, Debbie Alke & Dick Krott in front of the helicopter used in the show “Magnam P.I.” which is now owned by Silver State Helicopters.*

# Scholarship Opportunities

Montana is very fortunate to have many generous individuals and organizations that believe in promoting aviation by offering monetary assistance to qualified persons. The Aeronautics Division assists in administering some of these scholarships and encourages participation. The scholarships are offered to a Montanan to help defray costs of education (i.e., flight instruction, A&P, ect.) and will be presented during the 2005 Montana Aviation Conference in Butte. Awarding of the scholarships will be based on a letter explaining the reasons for applying, future career goals, past aviation experience, if any, and any outstanding achievements. Letters of application should be sent to Montana Aeronautics Division, PO Box 200507, Helena, MT 59620-0507 or call (406) 444-2506 for further information. **Letters must be postmarked on or before January 28, 2005.**

**A Love of Aviation (ALOA) Scholarship** – An anonymous donor established the first \$250 scholarship in 1993 and a second donor offered another \$250 scholarship in 1997.

**Morrison Aviation Appreciation Scholarship** – Jeff Morrison, retired former owner of Morrison Flying Service in Helena has established the \$300 scholarship as a token of appreciation to the aviation community.

**Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Scholarship** – MAAA offers this \$500 scholarship to help defray the costs of flight instruction.

**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.

**AOM Flight Training Scholarship** – AOM has established this \$500 scholarship to financially assist a student pilot in obtaining their private pilot certificate.

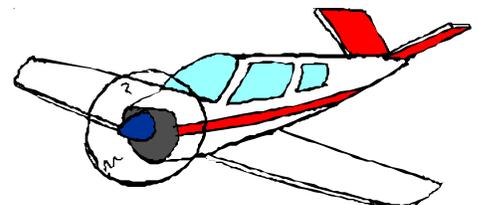
**Montana Pilots Association Junior Pilot Award** – This recipient is chosen for outstanding interest in aviation, citizenship within their community and demonstrated academic achievement. The recipient must have soloed and be actively involved in flight training. This is a \$500 scholarship.

**Montana Pilots Association Flight Training Award** - This scholarship is open to a person who has a considerable interest in aviation. The \$500 scholarship is to be used for flight training.

**Blue Goose First Generation Flight Scholarship** – This \$250 scholarship is awarded to a first generation pilot to assist with flight training. 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.

**Dorothy Krantz Memorial Scholarship** - This scholarship will offer a Montana student pilot the opportunity to complete their private pilot license; the scholarship is for \$2,500 and is to be used over a one-year period. The applicant must have soloed and the scholarship is to be used for flight training with a Montana flight instructor. In addition to the letter of application, include a letter of recommendation from your flight instructor.

**Montana 99's Flight Scholarship** – This \$500 scholarship is to be used towards earning a private pilots certificate. The applicant must be female and obtained her medical certificate and student pilot certificate. The training must be completed in Montana and the license obtained within two years. Send a one-page letter stating your reasons for wishing to be a pilot, financial need, and your financial plan for completing the rating. Also send one letter of reference and a copy of your current medical certificate.



# A Breezy Flight to Kitty Hawk

Bob Alm better known as Breezy Bob tackled winter weather conditions to celebrate 100 Years of Flight and to bring awareness to cancer. The Breezy is an open aircraft that was designed in the early 1960s for fun and fair weather flying in regional areas – not as a cross-country aircraft in winter conditions. Bob calls his Breezy “The Anabelle” in memory of his mother who died of Cancer in the spring of 1995. Bob said now, a year later, the question he is asked is, “Was it worth it?” His answer is an unequivocal “Yes”! The mission was a success. People opened their hearts to them. His gratitude also goes out to all of the EAA members who housed them in hangars, fed and fixed them. They made a very difficult journey easier. The cancer ribbon they carried with them on Breezy was completely full with the signatures of people they met along the way. With the donations they received they were able to fund a computer and software for Cancer patients to use at the new Cancer Center at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. The computer room and library is named the Kitty Hawk for Cancer Information Center. For more information on the Breezy and Kitty Hawk for Cancer see Bob’s website: [www.flythebreezy.com](http://www.flythebreezy.com).



*Breezy Bob and fiancée Vicki over Kitty Hawk December 17, 2003.*

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR!**

Twenty-nine hundred copies of this public document were produced at an estimated cost of 39 cents each, for a total cost of \$1,131. This includes \$200 for production, \$750 for postage and \$181 for printing.

**January, 2005**

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