



MDT Welcomes New MDT Director and Deputy Director



Governor-elect Steve Bullock has chosen Mike Tooley as the new director of the Department of Transportation. He officially began his new duties on January 7, 2013.

Mike recently retired from the Montana Highway Patrol after 28 years with the agency, the four most recent years serving as colonel. He began his career with the speed enforcement squad, became a division commander in 2002, and a lieutenant colonel in 2004.

Mike is a graduate of Helena Capital High, 1980; Harvard University, Senior Executives in State and Local Government, 2006; Grand Canyon University with a bachelor's degree in public safety administration, 2007; and the FBI National Academy, 2008. He was a member of the Montana Army National Guard from 1998-2000 and the U.S. Naval Reserves from 2000-2005.

Mike and his wife, Olivia, have six children.

Pat Wise was recently named MDT's deputy director. Pat was currently an Economic Development Specialist in the Governor's Office of Economic Development.



She started in workforce development as a counselor for at-risk youth in Helena in 1981. She went on to work with dislocated workers throughout Montana as the Director of the Montana State AFL-CIO's Project Challenge: Work Again.

Pat worked for ten years with a wide array of local, state, and federal workforce development programs at the national AFL-CIO's Working for America Institute where she served as a Disability Specialist and the Midwest Regional Coordinator for the Institute. In her capacity as a regional coordinator, she facilitated the development of state and regional partnerships between public programs, employers and organized labor to benefit dislocated workers in states from Michigan to Missouri. As the Executive Director of the California Labor Federation's Workforce and Economic Development department, Pat coordinated the advancement of High Roads Partnerships providing skilled workers and training to employers throughout California. Pat also worked for the Montana Nurses Association as its Labor Director.

The Aeronautics Division welcomes Mike and Pat and is looking forward to working with them.



Pilots needed for General Aviation Flight Data Monitoring Survey

Pilots are being asked to complete the General Aviation Flight Data Monitoring Survey, designed to evaluate the familiarity and perceptions of the general aviation community concerning flight data monitoring capabilities and objectives. The 18-question survey takes about five minutes to complete. Check it out at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GAFDM>.

Administrator's Column

Register your 406: A gentle reminder to 406 ELT owners -- *please* register your ELT as soon as you take possession of the transmitter and prior to installation. As the agency responsible for air search and rescue, we receive calls of 406 ELT transmissions being picked up by the satellites and what should result in a quick telephone call to the owner (if registered) can result in many resources and hours spent tracking down the signal when not registered. Every call received of an ELT signal is taken seriously with our ultimate goal of saving lives. The investment in a 406 ELT is an important personal decision so please recognize the importance of registering your ELT. Register at: <https://beaconregistration.noaa.gov/rgdb/> Safe flying to all in the New Year!

Powder River Training Complex Update: The highly debated plan by the Air Force to more than triple the area that can be used in training exercises for the Dakotas-based B-1 and B-52 bombers is still undergoing an environmental review nearly a year after the final report was expected. Officials at Ellsworth Air Force Base continue the process of meeting with Native American tribes. A draft environmental impact statement was released in August 2010 with public hearings held in Montana, the Dakotas and Wyoming. The effort is a long, process involving a number of different agencies and governments.

Neptune Aviation waits for contract: The retardant-bombing aircraft provider for forest fire defense has been busy modifying a fourth BAe-146 jet for the 2013 fire season while it does annual maintenance on its three other jets and seven P2-V rotary-engine bombers. The company has filed its offer for up to seven P2-Vs under the Forest Service's "legacy solicitation" and is waiting for word from Washington, D.C., on a next-generation bomber contract. We hope a contract will be awarded to Neptune, our local Missoula-based aerial firefighting company soon.

Huerta confirmed as FAA Administrator: Michael Huerta was confirmed by the Senate recently. Huerta has served as acting administrator since the resignation of Randy Babbitt in December 2011. Ray LaHood, Secretary of the Department of Transportation said that Huerta has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and will continue to focus on enhancing the safety and efficiency of the largest aviation system in the world. Huerta will lead FAA for five years as the agency struggles with increasingly congested skies and moves away from an inefficient, point-to-point navigation system to NextGen, projected to save fuel and ease delays.

Medical Exemption Update: More than 16,000 comments have been received to the very popular petition requesting relief from some of the FAA's medical certification requirements. If the FAA grants the petition, pilots holding recreational, private, commercial, and ATP certificates would be able to fly (with specific limitations) in many GA aircraft using a medical self-assessment process that would replace the third-class medical certificate. A response from the FAA is expected this spring.



Montana and the Sky
Department of Transportation

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Mike Tooley, Director

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Calendar of Events

January 22 & 23 – Aeronautics Board Meeting. For further information contact Patty Kautz (406) 444-9580 or email pkautz@mt.gov. http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/aeronautics_board/meeting.shtml

January 28-29 – AMAA Convention, Heritage Inn, Great Falls. For further information contact Colleen Campbell eccampbell@yahoo.com.

February 8 & 9 – Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic. For further information contact Dave Hoerner (406) 444-9568 or email dhoerner@mt.gov.

February 28-March 2 – Montana Aviation Conference. Copper King Hotel, Butte. For further information contact Patty Kautz at (406) 444-9580 or email pkautz@mt.gov.

March 3-5 – Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium, Fargo, ND. <http://www.ndac.aero/umas.htm>.

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. MDT produces 1,800 copies of this public document at an estimated cost of 39 cents each, for a total cost of \$702. This includes \$483 for postage.



Mechanics Seminar & IA Renewal Held in Conjunction with Conference

The Montana Aeronautics Division is pleased to announce the 2013 Mechanics Seminar & IA renewal will be held in conjunction with this year's Montana Aviation conference in Butte.

The dates for the conference are February 28 - March 2, 2013. The Mechanics Seminar will be held on Friday March 1, and continue through Saturday March 2. Seminar hours are 8:00 am to 5:30 pm Friday March 1, and 7:00 am to 5:30 pm Saturday March 2. Registration for IA's starts at 7:00 am on Friday March 1 and 6:00 am on Saturday March 2. Please plan to be there early to register as an IA if you intend to use the training for next year's renewal.

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. If you are planning to attend only the 8 hour seminar on Saturday registration begins at 6:00 am. Please plan to arrive early to receive the full 8 hour credit.

Any questions please contact Michael Rogan with the Montana Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-9590 or e-mail at mrogan@mt.gov.

TENTATIVE SPEAKERS: Joe Westby, Northwest Propeller; Kristi Dunks, NTSB; Joe Loggie, SLICK Mags by Champion; Vince Bechtel, Tempest; Shannon Geary, Lycoming; Bryan Hart, KANNAD; Kevin Briggs, Rolls Royce; Rene Bouchard, Standard Aero; Mitch Steinberg, Rocky MT Aircraft; Loren Lemen, LY-CON Rebuilding; Helena FSDO, Jeff Vercoe, FAA Steam.

Make plans now to attend, to discuss and learn the latest in aircraft maintenance.

29th Annual Montana Aviation Conference
February 28-March 2, 2013 – Copper King Hotel & Convention Center, Butte

Mail Registration Form & Payment to:
 MDT Aeronautics Division - Attn: Patty Kautz
 PO Box 200507 - Helena, MT 59620-0507
 Phone (406) 444-9580 – Fax (406) 444-2519
 Email: pkautz@mt.gov

Names of Participant(s) (for badges): _____

Aviation Organization Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

Register Early and SAVE! Pre-registration will be open until February 22, 2013. After that date conference fees increase and participants must register at the conference site (see reverse for further information regarding on-site registration).

PRE-REGISTRATION: BY FEBRUARY 22, 2013

Takeoff to Landing Package (includes registration & all meals)	_____ @\$140/PERSON _____ @\$270/PERSON/SPOUSE	\$ _____ \$ _____
-OR- Registration Fee (includes registration & free meals – see note below)	_____ @\$85/PERSON _____ @\$160/FAMILY	\$ _____ \$ _____
Thursday Luncheon	_____ @\$15/EACH	\$ _____
Friday Luncheon	_____ @\$15/EACH	\$ _____
**Friday Dinner/Entertainment	_____ @FREE W/ PAID REGS (SEE NOTE BELOW)	\$ _____
**Saturday Luncheon	_____ @FREE W/ PAID REGS (SEE NOTE BELOW)	\$ _____
Saturday Banquet	_____ @\$30	\$ _____
-OR- Registration Fee (No Meals)	_____ @45/PERSON _____ @75/PERSON/SPOUSE	\$ _____ \$ _____

GENERAL REGISTRATION: AFTER FEBRUARY 22, 2013

Takeoff to Landing Package (includes registration & all meals)	_____ @\$150/PERSON _____ @\$290/PERSON/SPOUSE	\$ _____ \$ _____
-OR- Registration Fee (includes registration & free meals – see note below)	_____ @\$95/PERSON _____ @\$180/FAMILY	\$ _____ \$ _____
Thursday Luncheon	_____ @\$15/EACH	\$ _____
Friday Luncheon	_____ @\$15/EACH	\$ _____
**Friday Dinner/Entertainment	_____ @FREE W/ PAID REGS (SEE NOTE BELOW)	\$ _____
**Saturday Luncheon	_____ @FREE W/ PAID REGS (SEE NOTE BELOW)	\$ _____
Saturday Banquet	_____ @\$30	\$ _____
-OR- Registration Fee (No Meals)	_____ @55/PERSON _____ @95/PERSON/SPOUSE	\$ _____ \$ _____

****PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL ATTEND THE FRIDAY DINNER AND SATURDAY LUNCHEON WITH NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUIRED. PERSON REGISTRATION INCLUDES 1 FRIDAY DINNER AND 1 SATURDAY LUNCH TICKET; PERSON/SPOUSE AND FAMILY REGISTRATIONS INCLUDE 2 FRIDAY DINNER AND 2 SATURDAY LUNCH TICKETS – ADDITIONAL TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED - \$30.00 FRIDAY DINNER AND \$15.00 SATURDAY LUNCHEON. TO ASSURE ADEQUATE MEAL COUNT IF NO INDICATION IS MADE AS TO NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUIRED NO TICKETS WILL BE RESERVED.**

Payment Method:

Enclosed is my check payable to Montana Aeronautics Division - Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Upon receipt of this form, please charge my: American Express MasterCard Visa Discover

Cardholder Name _____

Account Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Balance Due \$ _____ Signature _____



2013 Conference Site Rich in History



Butte, Montana, is definitely a town rich in history and what better way to kick off the 2013 Montana Aviation Conference than one of Buttes finest historians - Chris Fisk. Chris was raised and educated in Dillon, MT. He obtained his BA in Education from Western Montana College and did grad work at the Montana State University Billings before receiving his Master's Degree in Educational Technology from Lesley University. Chris has been teaching for nearly 20 years. Mr. Fisk is known for his sometimes unusual approach to teaching history to his students; everything from replicas of five story Christmas Displays, cowboy beans, branding cattle and ghost walks to even processing Bison with obsidian knives. As an educator, Mr. Fisk has been humbly honored with the Gold Star teaching award, top 40 under forty, Best of the Best for Southwest Montana, Nomination to the Disney Hands on Teacher of the Year and the 2010 recipient of The Daughters of the American Revolution History Teacher of the Year for the State of Montana. Most recently the spring of 2012 Fisk was inducted into the Educators Hall of Fame at the University of Montana Western. In addition to teaching, he is a tour guide, trolley driver and speaker. You won't want to miss Chris's presentation on Butte, its people, culture and history.

*Thursday luncheon speaker,
Chris Fisk*

On Friday afternoon a special spouse/guest event will include a tour of the Copper King Mansion. The Copper King Mansion is a 34-room Victorian mansion built from 1884 to 1888 as the Butte residence of William Andrews Clark, one of Montana's three famous "Copper Kings" who helped establish the fledgling Montana territory through their business ventures.

The Copper King Mansion has been owned, operated and occupied by the Cote family for four generations. It is as much their heritage to preserve now as it was for the Clark family a century before. Recognizing the historical value of the mansion, the Cote family has endeavored to keep the home as close to its original state as possible. Solely funded by tours, bed and breakfast guests, and catered events, the Copper King Mansion remains the only privately owned mansion in Montana accessible to the public.

Friday evening get ready to have fun in true Butte style with an Irish buffet and listen to the amazing sounds of a talented local string band Mountain Moongrass. Their music includes old country and bluegrass tunes, as well as a mix of originals. They offer a fun blend of traditional and new sounds!

The conference will take place at the Copper King Hotel & Convention Center. Reservations can be made by calling (855) 681-5020 or (406) 221-7070 reference Aviation Conference to receive your conference rate of \$86.00 plus tax. Reservations must be made prior to **February 18, 2013** in order to guarantee the group discount.

A registration form is available on page 4 of the newsletter or on our website <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/>. Those that register early are eligible for a special prize that will be given away at Thursday's luncheon. You do not need to be present to win.

For further information on the conference please contact Patty Kautz at (406) 444-9580 or email pkautz@mt.gov.

Hope to see you there!



Friday evening entertainment will feature local string band Mountain Moongrass

Safety Briefing Focuses on Aerospace Medicine

The January/February 2013 issue of FAA Safety Briefing focuses on aerospace medicine. Articles cover key issues that affect medical certification for pilots, discuss the pilot's role in this process, and explain the FAA's responsibilities.



Among the articles in this medically-themed issue include:

- understanding what your medical can (and can't) do for you, (pg 14)
- how to fast track your medical certificate with FAA's online MedXPress system, (pg 20)
- what pilots should know about refractive eye surgery, (pg 24)
- and how the FAA evaluates drugs for aeromedical use, (pg 28)

There's also a special two-page pullout infographic (pgs 18-19) that details the medical certification process.

The issue's *Nuts, Bolts, and Electrons* department (pg 31) helps mechanics understand the risks of self-medicating, while *Vertically Speaking* (pg 34) looks at the effects of fatigue on rotorcraft pilots.

The link to the online edition is: http://www.faa.gov/news/safety_briefing/.

Montana's Natural Resources

By David J. Hoerner, Bureau Chief, Safety & Education

The state of Montana has many different natural resources. In the east we have giant coal mines and now with the price of gold at an all-time high there are mines operating around the state.

Oil discoveries in the northeast is starting to take hold and logging is making a comeback out west. We also produce electrical power for the nation through our water sheds and dam systems.

In the summer wildfires create revenue and jobs for area pilots and companies. One of our most important resource provides millions of dollars of revenue and creates enjoyable times and food for Montana families.

Grizzly bears, elk, deer, antelope, sheep, wolves and many more species exist in our state. The majority of Montanans grew up with rifles and pistols in their closet and wait with anticipation for the fall hunting season.

But this resource hasn't happened by chance. Years of successful management have grown the populations to the point that it is possible to have hunting or trapping seasons.

Over a life time of flying with biologists I've seen the dedication and focus these people have toward the animals they study. Wages are low and hours are long but come snow, rain or below zero temperatures their out watching over our wildlife.

The size of the state demands the use of aircraft to accomplish this management successfully. In the early eighties there were only a couple of companies that was dedicated to and flew wildlife full time.

Stradleys out of Bozeman flew Yellowstone and I flew from the east front of the Rocky Mountains west throughout Montana, Idaho and Washington. Now thirty years later there are many small aviation companies that help wildlife personnel keep track of the wildlife populations.

This type flying at times is not for the faint of heart. Pilots constantly fight the winds and weather as they circle down in the bottom of deep mountain valleys. Good maintenance coupled with a high degree of situational awareness is a must to survival in this field.

The State of Montana also has a Fish, Wildlife and Parks aircraft unit. Their mission statement is to provide safe, professional, expert, cost efficient, cost effective aircraft services for wildlife management.

The department's headquarters is located in Helena and they have four airplanes and four helicopters. There are pilots and airplanes stationed in Billings, Missoula, Great Falls and a Super-Cub and OH-58 helicopter in Kalispell.

Joe Rahn is the Manager and Chief Pilot. He graduated from the University of Montana with a business and wildlife degree. His aircraft of choice is a Hughes 500, but he can fly all of the department's aircraft.

Joe is well qualified for the flying that is demanded of a Montana Wildlife pilot. He flew Scout Helicopters for the US Army and then transferred to the Alaska National Guard.

He was deployed to Iraq and after his return he took a pilot position in Missoula for the states wildlife's flight department. He was promoted to the Aircraft/Unit Manager/ Chief Pilot in 2009. Joe resides in Helena with his wife and two wonderful kids.

Thanks for a job well done Joe.



Joe Rahn is the Chief Pilot- Manager of the Aircraft Unit for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Captain Jason Dahl Scholarship Fund

Applications are being accepted for the Captain Jason Dahl Scholarship Fund now through March 8, 2013.

Captain Jason was a 9/11 hero. A scholarship fund has been initiated providing needed funds to students of aviation whose achievements are based on sound merit and whose resources are limited.

Qualifications for this scholarship are that the candidate must be a full time student at an accredited university and must be majoring in Aviation with an emphasis in Pilot Related Studies. More detailed and extensive information can be obtained at the web site: www.dahlfund.org.

Missoula Family YMCA Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Event

The Missoula YMCA will host an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) event at Target Range School. ARISS contacts are live Q & A sessions between K-12 students and astronauts living aboard the International Space Station (ISS). The contacts are 10 minute interactive contacts via amateur radio. The event will take place during the week of January 7 – 11, 2013.

One hundred thirty-two essays were submitted by Missoula area students in grades 3 – 9 to win the chance to talk live to an astronaut on board the ISS. Student essays answered the question: why is space exploration important and what does space exploration mean to me. Fifteen students have been selected to speak as on board the International Space Station as the crew flies over Montana. The students selected attend the following schools in Missoula County; Loyola, St. Joseph, YMCA after school program, Chief Charlo, Target Range, Lowell and Hellgate Elementary.

Target Range School hosted a Star Party and Astronomy Family Night on November 30 to announce the winners. In addition, students and their family were engaged in several science, technology, engineering and math activities. Essay contest winners will also be required to attend a session on radio procedures and practice in preparation for the ARISS event.

Students and educators can participate in follow-up sessions based on NASA's Teaching From Space education resources in February and March. The first session is titled STEM on STATION. Students and educators will learn more about radio technology, microgravity, the International Space Station and current experiments being conducted in space.

The Missoula Family YMCA has been committed to incorporating academic programs to help students figure out their place in the world. Their participation in the ARISS event can help them achieve this goal and continue to excite the interest in their youth and promote NASA STEM activities. The experience of the ARISS radio contact will serve as a springboard to many other scientific investigations. The combination of the ARISS contact and the programs offered by the Missoula Family YMCA has the potential to reach thousands of kids. On a long-term basis, they foresee this growing into a program of STEM activities that will be offered to YMCAs nationwide.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of the National Aerospace and Space Administration (NASA), the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) the Radio Amateur satellite Corporation (CAMSAT), other worldwide amateur radio groups and international space agencies. ARISS is an international volunteer program consisting of delegations from 9 countries including several countries in Europe as well as Japan, Russia, Canada and the USA.

Texas Airport hosts RAF Fire Hub Dedication

Need another good reason to fly to San Marcos, TX? The beautiful old city located between Austin and San Antonio has long been known for bountiful crystal clear water, and aviation innovator Redbird Skyport, located right on the field (KHYY). And thanks to Redbird's generous corporate sponsorship, you can now enjoy one of the RAF's attractive Fire Hubs on the lawn near their full-service FBO, <http://redbirdskyport.com/>.

Dedicated on October 23, the San Marcos Fire Hub joins the inaugural AOPA-sponsored Fire Hub at Sun n' Fun, (Lakeland, FL), and both are ready for use. Fire Hubs are opportunities for individuals to buy commemorative bricks with their personalized message. "Our Fire Hub projects are well-received as fundraisers, and every dollar of profit furthers the RAF mission of preserving our freedom to enjoy recreational destinations," RAF Fire Hub Project Manager Jim Lynch said. The bricks are permanently placed around the artistically etched hub. "A campfire naturally attracts folks, and what better way to come together and share our passion for recreational flying?" asks Dan Prill, RAF vice president.

The initial "cornerstone" contribution is provided by a corporate sponsor, which guarantees them their name on the inlaid propeller blade. Each Fire Hub is installed by RAF volunteers, under supervision of Lynch. Donors may use the RAF website to purchase any number of bricks for \$100 each. Fire Hub locations are planned in each state. See www.theraf.org.





Jeppesen Connects Mobile Devices with Panel-Mounted Avionics

Jeppesen now offers route planning capabilities that can be transferred between mobile devices and installed avionics to improve data access for general aviation pilots.

The new route planning solution synchronizes smart-enabled devices with certified panel-mount avionics through the Aspen Avionics Connected Panel communication network. Jeppesen route planning data created with Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck on iPad is then transmitted for review through Aspen Avionics MFD 500 or 1000 units.

The route plan transfer process also works beginning with route planning data transmitted through the Aspen Avionics Connected Panel network to Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck on iPad. GPS-based own-ship position data can also be transferred through the Aspen Avionics gateway to Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck on iPad to show positioning on Jeppesen airport diagrams and enroute charts.

“We introduce Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck route planning functionality as an enabled app for the Aspen Avionics Connected Panel gateway to help enhance the connection between data and devices during all phases of the flight process,” said Scott Reagan, director, Jeppesen OEM Client Management. “Jeppesen route planning data available through the Connected Panel network will help pilots access the right information at the right time through their preferred delivery platform.”

A “rubber-banding” feature of Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck also allows pilots to amend route plans on the iPad touch screen and transmit the revised data through the Connected Panel gateway, officials said. Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck features data-driven and interactive digital enroute navigation information and worldwide geo-referenced terminal charts. Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck includes own-ship position and route overlay as well as the ability to view a library of terminal charts, airport diagrams and Jeppesen Airway Manual text information.

Jeppesen Mobile FliteDeck for consumer use is available for download at no additional charge for Jeppesen digital data subscribers through the App Store on iPad. To use the app, customers need a JeppView or Express JeppView subscription.

For more information: Jeppesen.com or AspenAvionics.com

