

**Montana Department of Transportation** 

**Aeronautics Division** 

Vol. 66, No. 1

January 2015

# **Conference Dates Rapidly Approaching!**

Hard to believe the 2015 Montana Aviation Conference is just around the corner. For those of you that haven't pre-registered please remember to do so before <u>February 20. 2015</u> as prices increase after that date. Also if you haven't reserved your room at the Holiday Inn Downtown please do so by <u>January 26. 2015</u> in order to guarantee the group discount. A registration form and lodging information is included on page 7 of this month's newsletter.

Friday's luncheon speaker will be Rich Stowell. Rich is the 2014 National FAASTeam 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



Rich Stowell

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.

Following Friday's luncheon many exciting concurrent sessions will be going on as well as a spouse/guest treasure hunt in historic downtown Missoula. A static display is planned for later that day at Northstar Jet along with tours of Neptune Aviation. Dinner that evening will be held at the Holiday Inn with music by local musician Tom Catmull. Tom has been around the Montana music scene quite a bit. He's fronted bands like Tom Catmull and the Clerics, performed solo, and now his latest effort, Radio Static, is making its mark. Tom Catmull's Radio Static harkens back to the vibe of old-school, '60s classic rock just as much as it sounds truly original and unique.



Stay tuned to our website <a href="http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/">http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/</a> and monthly newsletters for updates on the conference and more information on the line-up of exciting speakers! We look forward to seeing you in Missoula!

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



Tom Catmull

### Administrator's Column

**Happy New Year:** I hope you enjoyed a wonderful holiday season. The MDT Aeronautics Division looks forward to a productive and safe year in 2015 serving the aviation industry. Thanks to our many friends and partners far and wide for your support and camaraderie.

Powder River Training Center Update: Leadership in Montana continue to press the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Department of Transportation for answers and mitigations concerning the proposed Powder River Training Center expansion. In a recent letter Governor Bullock asked that the proposal be dropped or at a minimum that certain safety measures be adopted to protect civilian aircraft. See letter here: <a href="http://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/webdata/external/aero/governorletter.pdf">http://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/webdata/external/aero/governorletter.pdf</a>. Senators Jon Tester and Steve Daines met recently with U.S. Air Force officials and made it clear why the current proposal doesn't work for Montana. The Senators and Air Force representatives discussed issues raised by the Senators in a recent letter. See press release and letter at: <a href="http://www.tester.senate.gov/?p=press-release&id=3736">http://www.tester.senate.gov/?p=press-release&id=3736</a>. A decision by the Air Force is expected soon with approval also needed by the FAA.

**FAA Rule Clarification:** The Federal Aviation Administration has clarified its aviation fuel tax revenue use policy which governs how aviation fuel taxes collected by airports are spent. Specifically, the FAA said that money from any aviation fuel tax must be used for airport or aviation purposes. Current taxes that are diverted to other than aviation related use and do not qualify for grandfathering (taxes on aviation fuel in effect on December 30, 1987) will be allowed a three-year transition period for compliance. In a recent call hosted by the Federation of Tax Administrators (FTA) several questions were raised by states seeking clarification. On behalf of the states, NASAO has inquired of the FAA and awaits answers.

**Drone On:** Two permits allowing drone use have been issued to monitor crops and photography properties for sale by the FAA. This is the first time permission has been allowed to a real estate (Tucson AZ) or agriculture (Star ID) company. Advanced Aviation Solutions plans to use its 1.5-pound, fixed-wing eBee drone to make photographic measurements of farm fields, determine the health of crops, look for pests and help determine which fields need watering with the goal of saving farmers time walking through fields. Tierra Antigua Realty's exemption authorizes him to fly a Phantom 2 Vision+ quadcopter to "enhance academic community awareness and augment real estate listing videos," the FAA said. The permits require that the operators include a ground "pilot" and an observer. The pilot must have an FAA private pilot certificate and current medical and the drone must remain within line of sight of the operator at all times. Prior to these approvals, 12 exemptions were granted by the FAA to companies involved in the oil and gas, filmmaking, landfill and other industries with more than 200 requests for exemptions received. The FAA is under pressure to provide broader access to drones. Privacy and safety remain key concerns.

AOPA Announces 2015 Fly-in locations: Again this year, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) will host five Fly-Ins at new locations nationwide. The events are free to all attendees and will include aviation product and service exhibitors, aircraft displays, seminars, activities, food and fun. The 2015 Fly-Ins are scheduled for California's Salinas Municipal Airport (SNS) on May 16; Minnesota's Anoka County-Blaine Airport (ANE) on Aug. 22; Colorado's Colorado Springs Municipal Airport (COS) on Sept. 26; and Tennessee's Tullahoma Regional Airport (THA) on Oct. 10. In addition, the AOPA Homecoming Fly-In will be held at Maryland's Frederick Municipal Airport on June 6. The AOPA Fly-Ins are designed to give anyone the chance to experience the fun, wonder and excitement of general aviation. And for the first time, each AOPA Fly-In will kick off with a Friday night social event. Most locations will also offer on-field camping.



Montana and the Sky
Department of Transportation

Steve Bullock, Governor Mike Tooley, Director

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### **Calendar of Events**

**January 21, 2015 -** Fund Raiser for Bob Koch Family, Helena Regional Airport, 2nd floor meeting room. Spaghetti feed and cash bar provided by Captain Jack's. Silent auction 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and 50/50 drawing. \$15 per person at the door or tickets are also available at Vetter Aviation. For more information contact Vetter Aviation at (406) 443-0066 or Jeanne MacPherson at (406) 459-9408.

**January 21-22, 2015** – Aeronautics Board Meeting, Helena. For further information contact Patty Kautz at (406) 444-9580 or email pkautz@mt.gov.

**January 26-27, 2015** – Association of Montana Aerial Applicators (AMAA) Convention, Heritage Inn, Great Falls. Keynote speaker Jerry Cockrell. For further information contact Colleen Campbell at <a href="mailto:eccampbell@yahoo.com">eccampbell@yahoo.com</a>.

**February 25-26, 2015** – Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC). Holiday Inn Downtown Missoula. Held in conjunction with the Montana Aviation Conference. To register see page 6 of this months newsletter or go to <a href="www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation">www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation</a> or contact Stefani DeMars at (406) 444-2506 or <a href="mailto:sdemars@mt.gov">sdemars@mt.gov</a>.

**February 26-28, 2015** – Montana Aviation Conference, Holiday Inn, Missoula. For further information contact Patty Kautz at (406) 444-9580 or <a href="mailto:pkautz@mt.gov">pkautz@mt.gov</a>.

### **Attention Federally Funded Airport Sponsors**

You should have received your Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) request from our office by November 1, 2014 via email. If you have not received this request and/or have questions, please contact Wade Cebulski at (406) 444-9581 or wcebulski@mt.gov. As a friendly reminder these reports are due no later than **February 1. 2015**.

This document printed at state expense. Information on the cost of publication may be obtained by contacting the Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Division.



### Plan to Attend the Mechanics Seminar & IA Renewal

The MDT Aeronautics Division is pleased to announce the 2015 Mechanics Seminar & IA renewal will once again be held in conjunction with this year's Montana Aviation conference in Missoula.

The Mechanics IA Renewal Seminar will be held on Friday, February 27, and continue through Saturday, February 28. Seminar hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday February 27, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday February 28. Registration for IA's starts at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, February 27 and 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 28. Please plan to be there early to register as an IA if you intend to use the training for renewal.

We will be offering a full eight hours of training on both Friday and Saturday. 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 include Joe Westby, Northwest Propeller; Rene Bouchard, Standard Aero; Loren Lemen, LY-CON Rebuilding; Brian Costello, Lycoming Engines; Roger Fuchs, Aviation Consulting; Shane Champy, Champion Aerospace; Vince Bechtel, Tempest Plus; Mitch Steinberg, Rocky Mountain Aircraft; Helena FSDO Inspectors; Patrick MacQuarrie, Helena FSDO Manager and Jeff Vercoe, FAASTeam Manager.

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

### **In Memory**



Richard Sax O'Brien, "Buck", passed away January 6, 2015 after a long illness at the age of 82. He and his loving wife of 18 years, Nancy McLeod O'Brien, resided in Great Falls.

Buck was born on the family homestead near Conrad, October 11, 1932 to Margaret "Alicia" and Joseph O'Brien. He attended school in Brady and Conrad. After graduating from Conrad High, he received an agricultural engineering degree from Montana State College. ROTC allowed him to enter the Air Force as a second lieutenant, in the pilot training program where he proudly flew many fighter aircraft, serving as squadron commander. His flying career culminated as an F89 pilot in the Montana Air National Guard.

He married his sweetheart, Anna Mae Dallum on Sept. 13, 1953. After returning to the family farm, in addition to long hours of hard work and parenting 3 children, Buck volunteered in many local and state organizations. He was awarded "Outstanding Young Farmer", was a member of Grain Growers, and Farmers Union. Active in the state and local Chamber of Commerce, his business and political

acumen led to positions as chairman of the MT Aeronautics Board, a Pondera Bank of Montana director, and PMC board member. He was a Shriner, was master at the Conrad Mason Lodge #80, and was active in politics and his church. After 41 years of marriage, Anna Mae lost a battle with cancer in February 1995.

October 1996, Buck married Nancy McLeod Stephenson moving to Great Falls. He retired from the family farm, and became a real estate agent until he was 80. Buck served on the Great Falls Symphony board for many years, several as chairman. He served on the Benefis advisory council, other state boards, and was a member of the Quiet Birdmen, and the Order of Daedalians.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; sons Michael (Linda) and Raymond (Jana) O'Brien; daughter Erin (Randy) Brenteson; step -children Michael (Cathy) and Jack Stephenson, and Elizabeth Stephenson (David) Tanner; his 13 grandchildren, Jill (Ryan) Bell, Jennifer (Gareth) Oliver, Joseph, Katherine, Paul, and Daniel O'Brien, Kristen (Orry) Browning, Brad, Robert and Moranda Brenteson, Samuel and Sarah Stephenson, and Jackson Tanner; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Alicia O'Brien; wife Anna Mae; and brother Charles O'Brien. He will be greatly missed.

### FIRC to be held in Missoula

This year's Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic (FIRC) will be held February 25-26 in conjunction with the Montana Aviation Conference at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Missoula. Rooms have been blocked at the Holiday Inn at a rate of \$87 plus tax. Rooms can be booked by calling 1-877-834-3613 or (406) 721-8550 and reference rooming block **2015 Aviation Conference**. Reserve your room today; reservations must be made prior to **January 26. 2015** in order to guarantee the group discount. To register please complete the form on page 6 of the newsletter, visit our website at <a href="www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation">www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation</a> or contact Stefani DeMars at (406) 444-2506 or <a href="mailto:sdemars@mt.gov">sdemars@mt.gov</a>. Registration fees are \$160 for a Montana registered pilot or \$175 for a non-registered pilot. Hope to see you there!

# **Nominate Your Favorite Today!**

In the spirit of the NCAA's March Madness, AOPA is running its fourth annual Best Aircraft Showdown, a bracket contest that lets you pick pilots' favorite general aviation aircraft. Last year the de Havilland Beaver outmaneuvered its foes to earn the title of most beloved, and this year you have a chance to help determine who makes it to the tourney. Just enter your nominations at <a href="http://www.aopa.org/aircraft/challenge/nomination.cfm?method=nominate">http://www.aopa.org/aircraft/challenge/nomination.cfm?method=nominate</a>, as many as you want, and they will use your input to select 64 worthy aircraft for head-to-head matchups in voting on AOPA.org. And remember they have retired the previous years' winners (de Havilland Beaver, P-51 Mustang, and DC-3), so they won't be in the running this year.

Get your nominations in by February 15. Then check back for the brackets, make your predictions, and be ready for voting March 17!

Help set the field. Nominate an aircraft today!

### Women in Aviation Names Class of 2015

Women who changed aviation history make up the Class of 2015 for the International Women in Aviation Pioneer Hall of Fame. These women will be honored at Women in Aviation's 26th Annual International Conference, which will be held March 5-7, at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas, Texas. The ceremony will take place at the closing banquet on Saturday, March 7.

"Our induction ceremony is always the highlight of the closing banquet," says WAI President Dr. Peggy Chabrian. "These women and their accomplishments deserve to be recognized so that our members can thank those who came before them and initiated new undertakings or preserved the role of women's contributions throughout aviation history.

The 2015 Pioneer Hall of Fame Inductees are:

Priscilla (Pat) Blum, along with Jay Weinberg, founded Corporate Angel Network (CAN), a 34-year-old not-for-profit organization whose mission is to arrange free travel for cancer patients traveling to and from their treatment centers in the available seats on board corporate jet aircraft. In its first full year, 1982, a dozen corporations flew a total of 23 cancer patient flights. In 2014, 560 corporations signed on as CAN providers and an average of 220 cancer patients were flown each month for an annual total of 2550. The 47,000th cancer patient will be flown in Feb 2015.

Phoebe Omlie: Once one of the most famous women in America, Phoebe Omlie earned the first Commercial Pilot's License by a woman and became a successful air racer. During the New Deal, she held executive positions in federal aeronautics. During the 1920s, she bought a JN-4D and learned how to perform stunts with her future husband Vernon. She danced the Charleston on the top wing, hung by her teeth below the airplane, and performed parachute stunts in the Phoebe Fairgrave Flying Circus.

Deanie and Nancy Parrish deserve recognition as untiring volunteers who have recorded the history of the WASP through books, recordings, museum exhibits and an app, WAI officials note. This mother-daughter team makes sure WASP stay in touch with one another. They are also responsible for initiating the movement to honor the WASP with the Congressional Gold Medal. Many generations of historians, researchers and other women will benefit from their efforts.

The Women in Aviation, International Pioneer Hall of Fame was established in 1992 to honor women who have made significant contributions as record setters, pioneers, or innovators. Special consideration is given to individuals or groups who have helped other women be successful in aviation or opened doors of opportunity for other women. Each year, the organization solicits nominations from throughout the aviation industry for the WAI Pioneer Hall of Fame.

The 2015 Conference celebrates 26 years of WAI Conferences. With the theme "Connect, Engage, Inspire," the WAI Conference will include professional development seminars, education sessions, tours, workshops, networking events, speakers, and a commercial exhibit area. The conference concludes with WAI's annual banquet where dozens of scholarships are awarded and the Pioneers are inducted.

Online registration is available at WAI.org/15conference.

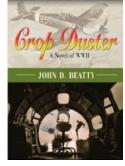
### **New Book, 'Crop Duster,' Released**

A new book, "Crop Duster: A Novel of World War II" which fuses fact with fiction to depict the fellowship of pilots, has been released.

Written by John D. Beatty, the book is the story of two pilots caught up in war, one in the U.S. and one in Germany.

"From the ashes of the Great War of 1914-1918 arose a brotherhood of the air made of intrepid flyers in delicate machines who braved the odds and the skies," the publisher says in the synopsis. "Between Germany and America there came two different ideas of air power, and what it might mean to fight and win wars from the air, and how peace might be preserved.

"From these ideas arose the new breed of air warriors: Flyers of bombers that devastated cities, and flyers of fighters that tried to stop them. Still the odds and the laws of physics were against both. But still there was the brotherhood of the air, the kinship between flyers that united them against outsiders."



"When a war's curtains close many are dead, entire cities are reduced to ash and a country's identity is often shaken for generations to come. However, humanity often lives through the fire to emerge victorious. The fact that this happens at all is miraculous," explains Beatty. "This book captures that one constant, told through the eyes of the brave men who were war's real victims."

"The action flips between American and German viewpoints, in an attempt to show how one war and even one day's battles are viewed from both the good guys and the enemy – whichever way around those titles are stamped. Readers will enter pilots' minds to experience their intimate thoughts, motivations and dreams. Often, the dream was simply to land in one piece."

"Crop Duster" is available on Amazon.com.



# Montana Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division 2015 FIRC Registration Form

MDT Aeronautics Division 2630 Airport Road P.O. Box 200507 Helena, MT 59620-0507 Ph: 406.444.2506 Fx: 406.444.2519

<b>D</b> · ·	_
Print	Form

# 2015 Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC)

### Hosted by the MDT Aeronautics Division

Clinic Name: 2015 FIRC

Clinic Dates: February 25-26, 2015

Clinic Location: The Holiday Inn Downtown, Missoula, MT-Annual Aviation Conference

Attendee Infor	mation
Name:	
Name(2):	
Name(3):	
Name(4):	
Company:	
Address:	
City:	
State/Province:	
Zip/Postal Code:	
CFI Number: Registered MT Pilot	-?-(Y_e_s/_N_o_); <u></u>
Main Contact:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Special Needs:	

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Q MT Registered Pilot - \$160.00

Q Non-registered MT Pilot - \$175.00

Clinic Fee (From above)	\$
x Number of Attendees:	
Subtotal:	
Total Due:	

Payments must be received by: January 23, 2015

P	a	v	n	n	е	n	t

Q Check payable to: Montana Aeronautics

Q Cash

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

This Clinic is being held in conjunction with the Annual Montana Aviation Conference at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Missoula.

The fee's above include Wednesday's dinner and Thursday's lunch. If you wish to attend the Aviation Conference additional registration fees apply.

The nearest airport is Missoula International Airport (MSO). Rooms have been blocked at the Holiday Inn Downtown, 200 South Pattee Street, Missoula, MT 59802 at a conference rate of \$87.00 plus tax. Rooms can be booked by calling 1-877-834-3613 or 406-721-8550 and reference rooming block 2015 AVIATION CONFERENCE. Reserveyour room today; reservations must be made prior to January 26. 2015 in order to guarantee the group discount. For further information regarding the Aviation Conference please visit the link below:

http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml or Contact Patty Kautz at 406-444-9580 or <a href="mailto:pkautz@mt.gov">pkautz@mt.gov</a>



### 31st Annual Montana Aviation Conference

### "Fly the Big Sky"

### February 26-28, 2015- Holiday Inn Downtown, Missoula

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

Aviation Organization Affiliation				
Address				
City:	State/Zip			
PhoneE-mail a	E-mail address			
Register Early and SAVE! Pre-registration will be open un participants <u>must</u> register at the conference site (see reve	ntil February 20, 2015. After that date conference fees erse for further information regarding on-site registra	increase and tion).		
PRE-REGISTRATION: BY FEBRUARY 20. 2015				
Takeoff to Landing Package	_@\$150/PERSON _@\$290/PERSON/GUEST	\$		
(includes registration & all meals)	_@\$290/PERSON/GUES1	-		
<u>-OR-</u> Registration Fee	_@\$95/PERSON (**SEE NOTE BELOW)	_		
(includes registration & free meals - see note below)	_@\$180/FAMILY(**SEE NOTE BELOW)	\$		
Thursday Luncheon	_@\$15/EACH	\$		
Friday Luncheon	_@\$15/EACH	\$		
Friday Dinner/Entertainment	_@FREE W/ PAID REGS (**SEE NOTE BELOW)	<u></u>		
Saturday Luncheon Saturday Banquet	_@FREE W/ PAID REGS (**SEE NOTE BELOW) _@\$35	\$		
Saturday Bariquet	_@ \$00	Ψ		
-OR- Registration Fee (No Meals)	_@45/PERSON	\$		
	_ @75/PERSON/GUEST	\$		
Takeoff to Landing Package (includes registration & all meals)	_@\$160/PERSON _@\$310/PERSON/GUEST	\$		
<u>-OR-</u> Registration Fee (includes registration & <u>free</u> meals - see note below)	_@\$105/PERSON (**SEE NOTE BELOW) _@\$200/FAM ILY (**SEE NOTE BELOW)	\$ \$		
Thursday Luncheon	_@\$15/EACH	\$		
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Friday Dinner/Entertainment Saturday Luncheon	_@FREE W/ PAID REGS (**SEE NOTE BELOW) _@FREE W/ PAID REGS (**SEE NOTE BELOW)	\$ <u> </u>		
Saturday Banquet	_@\$35	\$		
	@FF/DEDOON			
-OR- Registration Fee (No Meals)	_@55/PERSON \$ _ @\$95/PERSON/GUEST	\$		
**PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL ATTEND THE FRIDAY REQUIRED. PERSON REGISTRATION INCLUDES 1 REGISTRATION INCLUDES 2 FRIDAY DINNER AND 2 PURCHASED - \$30.00 FRIDAY DINNER AND \$20.00 SA INDICATION IS MADE AS TO NUMBER OF TICKETS REQURI	FRIDAY DINNER AND 1 SATURDAY LUNCH 2 SATURDAY LUNCH TICKETS - ADDITIONAL T ATURDAY LUNCHEON. TO ASSURE ADEQUATE ME	TICKET; FAMICKETS MAY		
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Aeronautics Division Montana Department of Transportation 2630 Airport Road PO Box 200507 Helena, Montana 59620-0507

# January, 2015



# **Sporty's Free Webinars Continue in 2015**

Sporty's officials note it has planned its webinar series for 2015 based on pilot feedback of the most popular topics. Sporty's webinars are live, multimedia presentations delivered online. Attendees hear from subject experts and have the opportunity to ask questions.

"We began our webinar series as a community outreach initiative to help our customers stay informed about new and developing technology. The overwhelming success and the feedback received from participants has us excited about new topics for 2015 and updates to the most popular presentations," says Sporty's Vice President John Zimmerman.





- Thursday, January 22: Flight Training and the iPad, with Sporty's Vice President of Flight Education David Zitt
- Thursday, March 12: Flying Refresher Time for Rusty Pilots to Get Current, with Sporty's Chief Flight Instructor Eric Radtke
- Thursday, April 30: Weather Flying and the iPad, with ForeFlight weather expert Scott Dennstaedt and Sporty's resident ADS-B guru John Zimmerman
- Thursday, June 4: Garmin Avionics ADS-B Academy and Product Updates with Garmin's Michael Kerrigan
- Thursday, July 9: Buying Your First Airplane, with aircraft acquisition expert Charlie Masters
- Thursday, Aug. 20: ADS-B Equipping for 2020, with Sporty's resident ADS-B guru John Zimmerman
- Thursday, Oct. 1: New Products Update, from the Sporty's pilot team
- Thursday, Nov. 12: Advanced iPad Flying, with iPad Pilot News Editor Bret Koebbe

Registration for the webinars is required as the number of participants is limited. For more information, to register or to view previous webinars, go to Sportys.com/Webinars.