

Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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Aviation Preservationist Greg Herrick to Speak at Annual Conference



Photo Credit: "Taylor-Aero Car" Golden Wings Flying Museum www.goldenwingsmuseum.com, December 5, 2016 10:08 a.m. *Full permission granted, sized to fit document

Successful businessman, entrepreneur, aviation historian, and President of the Aviation Foundation of America, Greg Herrick will address the Friday luncheon audience at the 33rd annual Montana Aviation Conference in Billings, March 2nd- 4th. Mr. Herrick maintains a collection of 40 golden-age aircraft in flying condition at restoration facilities across the country, including his 55,000 square foot hangar at the Anoka County– Blaine Airport in Blaine, MN. His collection includes one-of-a-kind aircraft, such as the oldest flying metal airplane, a Ford Tri-motor, and an actual flying car, the Taylor Aerocar.

As a result of his decade-long efforts, in 2012, Congress passed the FAA Air Transportation Modernization Act that included the "Herrick Amendment." This requires the FAA to protect and preserve aircraft technical drawings and other design data from the dawn of civil aviation

in the United States, and to make copies available to the public on request. Additionally, he prevailed in his effort to obtain FAA certification for the manufacture of ground adjustable all-metal propeller blades and hubs that are critical for the safe operation of some vintage aircraft. He convinced manufacturer MT Propeller of Germany to start from the original designs and recertify them for use in certificated aircraft. Deliveries are now being made to customers.

In 2003, Mr. Herrick organized and led an aerial armada of volunteer pilots and more than two dozen airplanes on a re-creation of the National Air Tours that took place from 1925 to 1931. The 4000-mile, 26-city tour captured the imagination of millions. In 2001, one of Herrick's vintage aircraft, a 1927 Avro Avian biplane, was flown by pilot Carlene Mendieta to re-create Amelia Earhart's 1928 record-setting flight across America and to raise awareness of Earhart's contributions to aviation.

In 2006, Mr. Herrick was named a Living Legend of Aviation by the Kiddie Hawk Air Academy of Littleton, CO, for his "great and significant contributions to the field of aviation." He joins Chelsey Sullenberger, Neil Armstrong, Dick Rutan, George McGovern, and other distinguished aviators who have received this honor.



Photo Credit: Owner Greg Herrick of Golden Wings Flying Museum www.goldenwingsmuseum.com, December 5, 2016 10:08 a.m. *Full permission granted, sized to fit document.



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Administrator's Column

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! As we prepare to close the books on 2016 and welcome a New Year, I extend warm wishes to each of you for a very joyous holiday season. Thanks for your friendship and support throughout the year. MDT is fortunate to have partners in our aviation industry that allow us to collaboratively work together to protect our airports and provide for a safe aviation system in our great State. I hope you get to enjoy time with your loved ones. Blessings to all and best wishes for a happy and safe 2017. Remember our troops -- God Bless America.

Congratulations Pam! Pam Chamberlin has been named the Airport Manager at the Bert Mooney Airport in Butte (BTM). Pam has been with the airport since 2011 and has previously served as the Finance Manager, Assistant Airport Manager and Acting Airport Manager. Prior to joining the airport, Pam was Vice-President and Branch Manager of the three Wells Fargo Banks in Butte. Please join me in congratulating Pam and wishing her well as she takes on this permanent role.

Powder River Training Complex (PRTC) meeting: A meeting held last month at Ellsworth AFB in Rapid City, SD brought together close to 50 representatives from the United States Air Force (Ellsworth and Minot AFBs); the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); the National Business Aircraft Association (NBAA); the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA); Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota and South Dakota Aeronautics Divisions; congressional representatives; and many users and interested parties from the affected states to discuss use and issues surrounding the PRTC after one-year of operations. Items discussed included an overview of the PRTC utilization and missions; FAA roles and coordination processes; mid-air collision avoidance (including a near mid-air incident); regional and local general aviation perspectives; large force exercises and next steps. The USAF expects to have communication capabilities in Powder River 1 and 3 Low areas sometime in 2017. Until that happens the USAF has not been allowed to use those segments of the PRTC. The USAF is willing to talk with land owners and others about specific times and areas to avoid, if able. Should you experience any issue it is important to report those to the USAF or your state Aeronautics office so that problems can be addressed efficiently. The group agreed to meet face-to-face next year and to conduct quarterly telecons. Thanks to Warren Hendrickson, AOPA Northwest Mountain regional manager for his work in coordinating the meeting.

Airway Beacons: The MDT Aeronautics Division has committed to maintaining three airway beacons – Strawberry, Spokane Hill, and MacDonald Pass. These three beacons will provide nostalgic aviators the opportunity to navigate a segment of the historic Northern Transcontinental Airway Route between New York and Seattle. In 1965, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) began decommissioning the airway beacons as the system became obsolete because of improvements in radar and other electronic directional navigation aids for aircraft. With the increasing utilization of modern navigational systems and recent funding concerns, the Aeronautics Division analyzed the navigational utility of the beacons to the pilot community. The decision to maintain three airway beacons was made in consideration of the low pilot utilization of the system, funding, workload, and availability of resources. Montana will keep its place in history as the only state in the country to maintain any navigable segment of the airway beacon system.

2016 Montana Airports Economic Impact Study: The economic impact study that MDT began in 2015 is nearing completion. On Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm in the Commission Room at MDT Headquarters, the consultant team led by Pam Keidel-Adams, Kimley-Horn, will present the executive summary. In addition to an overall state summary, the study also provides 77 individual airports with information specific to its airport. The last economic impact of airports study was completed in 2008. MDT is excited to have this information updated and ready to share. The presentation on January 18 is open to the public. If you are interested in attending please plan on joining us. If questions please call or email me at dalke@mt.gov.



Montana and the Sky
Department of Transportation

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Montana Aviation Conference Events

March 2 - 4, 2017



Photo Credit: http://www.roberttaylorprints.com/robert_taylor_prints.php. December 8, 2016 10:40 a.m. Original sized to fit document.

Aviation Art Raffled at Montana Aviation Conference

Larry Chambers of Aviation Art Forms has once again donated an outstanding piece of artwork to be raffled at the 2017 Montana Aviation Conference in Billings. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the conference. All proceeds will be donated to the Aviation Conference.

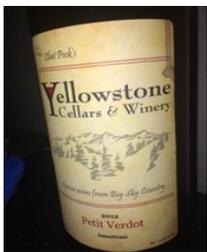
A museum quality framed print by the celebrated aviation artist, Robert Taylor, from England.

"COMING IN OVER THE ESTUARY"

P-38J Lightnings of the 364th Fighter Group cross the English village of Bosham, returning from a low-level strike over France, Summer of 1944. Signed by five Aces who flew the P-38 during combat in Europe during WWII. Print # 105-1250; Retail Value: \$1,100

MDT Aeronautics to Conduct IA Refresher at Aviation Conference

The Aircraft Mechanic Refresher Seminar and IA Refresher Course will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 3rd and 4th, 2017, in conjunction with the 33rd Annual Montana Aviation Conference at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. To be eligible for renewal of an inspection authorization for a 2-year period, an applicant must present evidence to the FAA during the month of March of each odd-numbered year that he or she still meets the requirements of 14 CFR 65.93 (a). One means of meeting this requirement is to attend and successfully complete a refresher course, accepted by the FAA, of not less than 8 hours. A total of 16 hours of instruction will be offered over the two days, so mechanics can meet the renewal requirements by attending either day. Registration for the IA Refresher Course and the conference is available online at the following link: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml>.



Yellowstone Cellars & Winery Spouse Tour

Friday, March 3rd

Leave Billings Hotel and Convention Center at 1:45 p.m.; Return from Winery at 4:00 p.m.

Yellowstone Cellars is a "bookend" boutique winery — complete with a wine cellar, tasting room and an event area. Come and enjoy samples of current releases and experience the art and science of premium wine making. 58,000 lbs. of red and white 2014 Washington grapes are aging at the winery.

Still available are approximately 45 barrels of the 2012 wines while the entire crop of 2013 & 2014 red wines are aging in the cellar. Yellowstone Cellars & Winery selections of red and white grapes grown in Columbia Valley vineyards are crushed, fermented, cellared and bottled in Billings, Montana.

Photo Credits: <http://http://yellowstonecellars.com/photo-galleries>. December 8, 2016 10:38 a.m. Original sized to fit

Aviation Scholarship Recipients to be Announced at Annual Aviation Conference in March 2017

Application Deadline January 9, 2017

MDT Aeronautics Division is pleased to announce a number of aviation scholarship opportunities available again this year, made possible through the generosity of many individuals and organizations that believe in promoting aviation by offering monetary assistance to qualified persons. Over \$17,000 in scholarships will be awarded for training of professional pilots, soloed student pilots, flight instructor applicants, A&P mechanics, and airport management professionals. See a complete detailed listing of each scholarship opportunity on our website at <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml>.

Scholarship recipients will be announced at the Montana Aviation Conference in Billings on March 2-4th, 2017. For further information, contact Harold Dramstad, Safety and Education Bureau Chief at the Aeronautics Division, at 406-444-9568 or at hdramstad@mt.gov.

Leah Hiebert, left, of Missoula, was among the scholarship winners at the 2016 conference. She was awarded the \$1,000 MPA Air Safety and Education Scholarship from MPA President, Scott Newpower, right.



AERONAUTICS WINTER SURVIVAL CLINIC 2017

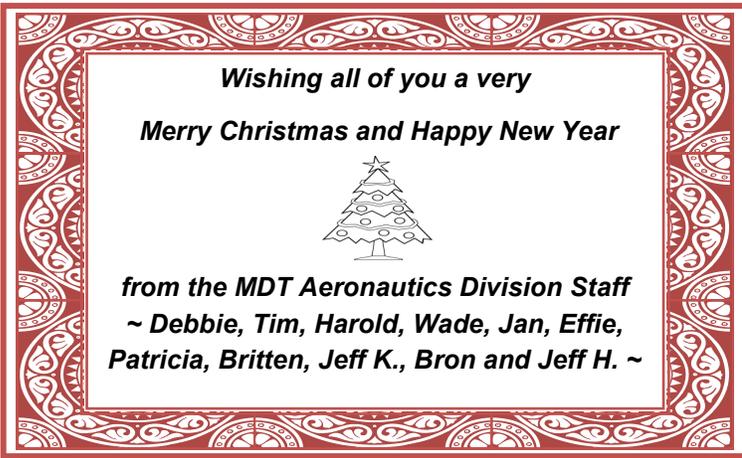
January 6th-8th
Helena, MT

Register online:

www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml



The 2017 Winter Survival Clinic will be conducted in Helena on the weekend of January 6th-8th. The purpose of the clinic is to train pilots in the techniques and methods necessary to survive an air crash in Montana during the winter. Attendees will learn the essential skills of signaling, fire craft, and shelter building in classroom lectures on Friday evening, followed by the field portion of the clinic, which will include an overnight campout at Stemple Pass, northwest of Helena on the continental divide. Professional instruction will be provided by experienced trainers from The Peak, Inc. of Butte, MT. A registration form and required equipment list is available online at: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml>. Cost for the clinic is \$120, and registration deadline is December 26th, 2016.



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**Flight Instructor Refresher Course Scheduled for
Helena on February 10 & 11, 2017**

The MDT Aeronautics Division will conduct the 2017 FIRC in Helena on February 10th and 11th at the Wingate Inn. The two-day, FAA approved course will run from noon on Friday until 9 p.m., and from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. The 16-hour course is one means by which an FAA-certified flight instructor may comply with the renewal requirement of 14 CFR 61.197, and for a ground instructor to meet the recent experience requirements of 14 CFR 61.217. A block of rooms has been set up at the Wingate Hotel, 2007 North Oakes, phone 406-449-3000, at the rate of \$95 per night plus tax. Mention the group name MDT FIRC when confirming your room reservation. The registration fee for the refresher course is \$160 for pilots registered in Montana and \$175 for non-registered pilots. First time attendees will be awarded the coveted Montana flight instructor wings designed by Montana aviation pioneer and Aeronautics Commissioner, Frank W. Wiley. The course is open to anyone with an interest in aviation, and specifically geared toward the professional flight instructor to promote a culture of safety in general aviation. Attendees will be eligible for credits under the FAA Wings Program.

**MDT Aeronautics Division Welcomes
New Staff Member Jan Smith**

Jan Smith joined the Airports and Airways Bureau at the MDT Aeronautics Division on November 29th. As an A&P mechanic with his IA, Jan will be conducting the maintenance and annual inspections on the Division aircraft, as well as handling the resale program and carrying out maintenance duties on airway beacons and the 14 state-owned airports. Jan is an instrument-rated commercial pilot and CFI, and was most recently employed with Textron Aviation, Inc. of Wichita, KS, where he served as an accident investigator. At Textron, he participated in over 100 NTSB-led accident investigations involving Cessna and Beechcraft airplanes. A native of Minnesota, Jan attended A&P school in Minneapolis and worked as a mechanic throughout the Midwest and Southwest, including 10 years with Northwest Airlines and as an electronics technician with Burlington Northern-Santa Fe railroad in New Mexico. Jan and his wife Patricia Trooien have 3 grown sons, 2 of whom live in Western Montana. Patricia joined the staff of the Safety and Education Bureau at Aeronautics in November as a Program Coordinator.



Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Civil Rights Bureau, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone (406) 444-9229. Those using a TTY may call (800) 335-7592 or go through the Montana Relay Service at 711.

Seaplane Pilots Advised of Invasive Aquatic Species

On November 8th, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks announced that for the first time, a body of water in Montana has tested positive for the larval form of the invasive zebra or quagga mussel. Water samples taken from Tiber Reservoir east of Shelby have tested positive, and similar test samples taken from Canyon Ferry Reservoir near Helena have shown suspected or inconclusive results. No adult forms of the mussels have been found yet, but in waters of the Midwest and Great Lakes where populations have become established, the ecological and economic impacts have been devastating. The Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council stresses the mantra of “Clean, Drain, and Dry” for recreational users of the state’s waterways. Perry Brown, President of the Montana Seaplane Pilots Association suggests that pilots forego the use of Tiber Reservoir and Canyon Ferry Lake for water landings until the presence of the invasive mussels have been eliminated. He adds, amphibious seaplane pilots should consider a land runway landing after making water landings to clean, drain, and dry their airplane and prevent the spread of the invasive mussels.



Photo credit: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2014/07/prweb12046609.htm>.

Townsend Pilot Reports from South Pole



Pictured above: Townsend pilot Matt Nelson and Helena native, Dr. Dava Newman, Deputy Administrator of NASA, recently at the South Pole.

Pictured to the right: A helium balloon is released from the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station to measure the ozone levels in the atmosphere, up to 100,000 feet.



Calendar of Events

January 9, 2017 — Scholarship - Letters must be postmarked on or before January 9, 2017. Go to this link for detailed information: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml>.

January 6-8, 2017 — Winter Survival Clinic - Learn winter survival skills. For further information, contact Harold Dramstad at (406) 444-9568 or hdramstad@mt.gov.

January 18-19, 2017 — Aeronautics Board Meeting - For further information, contact Tim Conway at (406) 444-9547 or email tconway@mt.gov.

January 23-24, 2017 — Association of Montana Aerial Applicators (AMAA) - Will convene for their annual convention at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls. Following the Monday evening banquet, nationally known radio personality, Trent Loos, host of Rural Route Radio will be the keynote speaker. For further information contact Colleen Campbell at 406-781-2017 or email eccampbell@yahoo.com.

February 10-11, 2017 — Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC) - This course meets the FAA's renewal requirements for certified flight instructors (CFI & Chief CFI). For further information, contact Harold Dramstad at (406) 444-9568 or hdramstad@mt.gov.

March 1, 2017 — Aircraft Registration Renewal Deadline

March 2-4, 2017 — 33rd Montana Aviation Conference - Billings Hotel & Convention Center, Billings. For further information contact Effie Benoit at (406) 444-9580 or efbenoit@mt.gov. See page 6 for conference events.

March 3-4, 2017 — MDT Aeronautics IA Refresher Course - Billings Hotel and Convention Center. For further information, contact Harold Dramstad at (406) 444-9568 or hdramstad@mt.gov.

March 6-12, 2017 — Women of Aviation Worldwide Week - Fly It Forward flights for girls of any age, in celebration of the first pilot certificate issued to a woman, French pilot Raymode de Loroche, March 8th, 1910. For details, <http://www.womenofaviationweek.org/compete/fly-it-foward-challenge/>.

April 15, 2017 - Aviation Art Contest - Deadline for all submissions. For more information visit our website at www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation or call our main office at (406) 444-2506.

June 19-20, 2017 - Aviation Career Exploration (ACE) Academy - Program geared toward high school students interested in aviation. For more information contact Harold Dramstad at (406) 444-9568 or hdramstad@mt.gov.

2017 Pilot & Aircraft Registration

Montana pilots and aircraft owners will soon be receiving their registration renewal notices in the mail. Montana uses a simple fee structure in lieu of tax for the annual aircraft registration, based on the type and age of the aircraft. Aircraft customarily kept in Montana must be registered on or before March 1st of each year. Late registrations are subject to a penalty of 5 times the fee, in addition to the fee itself. If your aircraft has been sold, is dismantled, or otherwise unflyable, check the appropriate box on your registration invoice and return it to MDT Aeronautics Division before March 1st, 2017.

The annual pilot registration fee of \$10 goes to support the many clinics and programs of the MDT Aeronautics Division, including the Winter Survival Clinic, Aviation Career Exploration Academy, Aviation Art Contest, and the Aeronautics resource library. Registering pilots will receive a 2017 Montana airport directory and the monthly newsletter, *Montana and the Sky*. The information collected on pilot registration cards becomes invaluable in the event of search and rescue operations. Pilots interested in volunteering as search pilots and spotters may so indicate this on their registration card.

For more information or questions, please contact the MDT Aeronautics Division's main office at (406) 444-2506.



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Vision Zero: A Goal for Everyone

In 2015, there were 224 fatalities on Montana roads.

What does that mean? 224 parents, children, grandparents, friends, siblings, spouses, and other loved ones had lives that were cut short. It also means countless tears and shattered lives of those left with the aftermath of unsafe driving behaviors. Which loved one are you prepared to lose? If your answer is none, then

Vision Zero is also YOUR goal.

It will take every one of us to work towards the day that Vision Zero is met, and the fatality total reads "ZERO." Two of the highest contributing factors to traffic fatalities in 2015 were alcohol and no seat belt.

These are behaviors that can be changed! Start by always wearing your seatbelt and planning for sober transportation. Remind your loved ones and those around you to do the same.

-Director Mike Tooley, MDT

Visit www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero for more information.

zero deaths
zero serious injuries

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