

Montana and the Sky



Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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Berlin Airlift Historic C-54 Visits Great Falls



Veterans and families of the Berlin Airlift gathered in Great Falls on September 7th-9th to celebrate and remember one of the greatest feats in aviation history, as well as one of the largest humanitarian successes in American History. The opening reception for the veterans, average age 89, was held at the Cascade County History Museum and included welcoming remarks by Great Falls Mayor, Robert Kelly. VIP guests at the reception included German Air Attaché Colonel Christian Strehle; Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, Petra Heussner-Walker; and MDT Aeronautics Division Administrator, Debbie Alke.

Holman Aviation hosted the Douglas C-54 Skymaster, "Spirit of Freedom" on its ramp for free public tours as members of the Berlin Airlift Veteran's Association enjoyed the hospitality of the city of Great Falls. In 1948 and 1949, more than 2,100 airman received training on C-54's at the Great Falls air base for assignment to Rhein-Main Germany in support of Operation Vittles, better known as the Berlin Airlift.

Great Falls proved well suited for the training of air crews, as its weather and short runway were similar to their destination, Tempelhof Field in Berlin. Pilots flew training missions loaded with 10 tons of sandbags and practiced an early instrument procedure known as a ground control approach, to navigate the 20-mile wide corridor through the Soviet zone of occupation into Berlin. In June of 1948 the Russians instituted a land blockade of all food and fuel into West Berlin, a city of 2.4 million. The United States and Britain responded by flying more than a quarter million flights during the 11 months of the blockade, with aircraft landing and unloading in Berlin every three minutes. The success of the airlift not only prevented the starvation of 2 million people and the military takeover of Berlin by the communists, it showed the world the resolve of the American and British to stand up in the defense of freedom. The city of Great Falls played an important role in that success.

Administrator's Column

Mark Kimberling Named: The National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) has named Mark Kimberling as President and CEO of the 85-year-old organization. Before joining NASAO to manage the association's advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill and in state legislatures, Kimberling served as the National Director of State Government Affairs at the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), where he successfully spearheaded several significant pro-aviation state tax reform and funding initiatives across the country. Kimberling also worked as an international aviation and airport analyst, authoring a comprehensive assessment report on the development of Brazil's national system of airports and infrastructure. Prior, he worked on transportation, aviation, and other policy issues in Congress on the staff of Representative Zoe Lofgren (CA-19). Kimberling is also a commercial rated pilot and certified flight instructor (CFI) with international flight experience as a former First Officer for American Eagle Airlines based in Puerto Rico.

Powder River Stakeholders: MDT Aeronautics Division has been working in collaboration with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and the National Business Aircraft Association (NBAA) regarding the Powder River Training Complex (PRTC). Now that the airspace has been in operation for a year, establishing a formal aviation stakeholder committee to meet regularly and discuss the workings and operation of the PRTC airspace is underway. The goal of the group is for all to work together to enhance safety and use of the airspace for all. The first meeting of the group will be hosted by the 28th Bomb Wing of the U.S. Air Force at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota. If you would like more information regarding the meeting or the stakeholder group, you can contact me at dalke@mt.gov or (406) 444-9569.

Neptune Aviation Receives Grant: The Montana Community Development Corporation will receive close to \$800,000 in federal funding to help Neptune Aviation's new job creation and training program. The grant will come in the form of a low-interest loan and will be used to train and hire low-income workers as entry-level mechanics. Neptune Aviation currently employs over 100 workers. Neptune operates a fleet of air-tankers used to fight wildfires.

Rocky Mountain College Flight Team Competes: Congratulations to the Rocky Mountain College Flight Team on its success at the NIFA Region 1 competition held recently in Logan, UT. Many finished in the Top 10 individual events. You make us all proud, thanks for your work. Team Members from left to right are: Michael Sandstead, Seth Mulhausen, Connor Morrell, Thomas Tooze, Tommy Condon (Co-Captain), Matthew Harpt, Donovan Parker, Philip Davis (Co-Captain), Jake Ramirez, Samantha Morris (Coach).



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Department of Transportation

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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.

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.

Aviation Scholarship Application Deadline

January 9th, 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 pages 4-6, as well as on our website, describing the eligibility and application requirements. 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.

Aviation Scholarship

A Love of Aviation (ALOA) Scholarship

An anonymous donor established this scholarship of \$250 in 1997 and in 2010 two more anonymous donors contributed an additional \$250 each creating a \$750 scholarship.

AOM Flight Training Scholarship

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

Bob Redding Memorial Scholarship

EAA Chapter 57 in Billings is offering a scholarship in memory of Bob Redding who was a lifetime advocate of general and experimental aviation. Building aircraft was as important to Bob as flying them and, given his tenure as a college math professor, so was education. Consequently, this \$250 scholarship is offered to those working towards their A&P license, first generation pilot training, or any post-secondary STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) degree.

EAA Missoula Chapter 517 Scholarship

EAA Chapter 517 in Missoula will provide two \$1,000 scholarships in 2017; one will be for a post-solo student pilot; and one to be used for any type of aviation career training. In addition, one scholarship of \$1,500 will be awarded to a second-year A&P mechanic student.

Edwards Jet Center Scholarships

Edwards Jet Center, a full-service fixed based operator and Part 135 charter operator based at Logan International Airport in Billings, is offering a \$500 scholarship to help defray the costs of flight instruction.

Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Scholarships

The Montana Antique Aircraft Association is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, use, and knowledge of antique airplanes. Their motto is: "Keep the Antiques Flying." They are sponsoring 2 scholarships this year, each for \$1,000. One scholarship is to help defray the cost of flight instruction, and the other is to help defray the cost of A&P mechanic school. Please submit a separate letter of application for each MAAA scholarship.

MPA Air Safety and Education Foundation (MPA ASEF) Flight Training Scholarship

This \$1,000 scholarship is open to an active pilot who has considerable interest in aviation and is seeking advanced flight training or a pursuing a profession in aviation. Applicant must be a Montana resident.

Montana Pilots Association (MPA) Junior Pilot Scholarship

The recipient of this \$1,000 scholarship is chosen for outstanding interest in aviation, citizenship in their community, and demonstrated academic achievement. The recipient must be a Montana resident and previously soloed. Preference is given to younger applicants who are new pilots or pursuing a profession in aviation.

Parrott Family Scholarship

The Parrott Family offers a \$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.

Theresa (Nistler) Colley Scholarship

Mountain AirDance Flight Training (Jeanne MacPherson and Bill Gallea) and Vetter Aviation (Brent and Rosie Vetter) offer this \$1,000 scholarship in memory of Theresa (Nistler) Colley who passed away from leukemia in February, 2012. Theresa loved flying and was working toward her private pilot certificate. This scholarship will be awarded to a student pilot who is working on getting their private pilot rating.

Vigilante Hangar Scholarship

The Vigilante Hangar of the Montana Pilots Association is sponsoring the 1st annual Flight Instructor Scholarship. The Scholarship in the amount of \$650 will be awarded to an instrument rated commercial pilot who is pursuing an initial CFI rating.

Charles Taylor/Rosie the Riveter Scholarship

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 344 of Helena, MT is sponsoring a \$500 scholarship to be awarded to the outstanding 2nd year airframe and power plant student enrolled in the Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) program at the Helena College. Selection of the awardee will be made by the A&P instructors in the AMT program.

Tyler Orsow and Chuck Kimes Forever Flying Scholarship

This scholarship is a fully-funded seaplane rating to be provided by Backcountry Flying Experience of Bigfork, MT. The scholarship honors the memory of seaplane pilots Tyler Orsow and Chuck Kimes who were lost in a crash of a one-of-a-kind seaplane on a ferry flight in the Mideast in 2011. To be eligible, the applicant must possess a private pilot certificate, a current flight review and at least a third class medical; be a U.S. citizen, between the ages of 17 and 35, a member of the Seaplane Pilots Association, and actively pursuing a career as a professional pilot. The scholarship must be used within 12 months. Those applying for the scholarship must include a color copy of their airman's certificate, front and back, a photocopy of their medical certificate, and a copy of their birth certificate or U.S. passport. A scholarship application is required and may be obtained from Terry Hayes at flyames@gmail.com or Harold Dramstad at hdramstad@mt.gov.

Montana Airport Management Association Scholarships

The Montana Airport Management Association (MAMA) is a professional organization dedicated to promoting and developing best practices in the management of Montana airports. MAMA will present 2 scholarships of \$2,500 each to Montana high school seniors or graduates who are enrolled in a Montana college or university, majoring in either Aviation or Business Management. The scholarship requires the completion of an application and essay questions, which may be obtained by contacting Jeff Kadlec, at jkadlec@mt.gov or Harold Dramstad at hdramstad@mt.gov.

How to Apply

Awarding of the scholarships is based on a letter explaining the reasons for applying; future career goals; past aviation experience (if any); and outstanding achievements.

The same letter can be used, but applicant must submit one copy addressed to each individual scholarship.

Each letter must include your mailing address and daytime phone number.

If you are awarded a scholarship, your photo will appear in the 2017 Montana Aviation Conference program. Please include a photo with your letter of interest for this purpose (only one photo is necessary).

Letters must be postmarked on or before January 9, 2017.

Mail your letters to:

MDT Aeronautics Division
PO Box 200507
Helena, MT 59620-0507

Call [406-444-2506](tel:406-444-2506) for more information.

Montana Classroom Teachers Learn About Aeronautics to Teach STEM

18 middle and high school teachers from across the state came to Helena on October 7-8th to partake in a workshop sponsored by the MDT Aeronautics Division in partnership with the Montana Learning Center at Canyon Ferry Lake. Teachers from schools as far away as Dixon, Hobson, Circle, Opheim, and Jordan received up-to-date information from Professor John Graves of MSU on the recently enacted Next Generation Science Standards and learned methods to bring Aeronautics-themed projects into the classroom. Classroom and lodgings were provided at the scenic Montana Learning Center.



Dr. John Graves

The teachers convened the following day at the Helena airport for tours of the air traffic control tower, the flight deck of a Boeing 727, and the aircraft restoration hangar of craftsman, Paul Gordon, who is completing an all-wood Pietenpol airplane from plans. Each teacher flew a 1-hour introductory flight lesson with a certified flight instructor on cross country flights to White Sulphur Springs, Three Forks, or Butte. Workshop participants experimented with 3 tabletop wind tunnels to develop projects and lessons for use in the classroom. Self-study materials and textbooks were provided to enable the educators to study and pass the FAA knowledge test for the Ground Instructor Certificate.

Effective December 8, 2016

Salt Lake Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) is redesigning several en route sectors.

For IFR clearance requests and VFR Flight-Following, the new Salt Lake City ARTCC frequency for **KRPX, 1S3, M46, 9MT0, KMLS, 00F, 97M, SD33, KBHK, KBWW, and 9D2 will be:**

132.425

Winter Survival Clinic Set for January 6-8th, 2017

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.



Flight Instructor Refresher Course Scheduled for Helena on February 10 and 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 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.

Montana Aviation Conference March 2-4, 2017

The 33rd Annual Montana Aviation Conference will be held in Billings, Montana March 2-4, 2017 at the Billings Hotel & Convention Center located at 1223 Mallowney Lane. Rooms have been blocked at a conference rate of \$91.00 plus tax. Reserve your room by calling (406) 248-7151 and reference rooming block **Montana Aviation Conference**. Reserve your room prior to February 15, 2017 to receive the reduced rate.



The Aviation Organizations of Montana (AOM) is excited to announce that we will now accept online conference registrations! Access the online registration portal at <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml>. For assistance with the online registration portal, contact Effie Benoit at (406) 444-9580 or efbenoit@mt.gov.

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 to be held 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 days. Registration for the IA Refresher Course and the conference is available online at the following link: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml>.

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

Aeronautics Division
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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.

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