

# Montana and the Sky

MDT - Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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## EAA AirVenture 2005

Debbie Alke and Jeanne MacPherson were lucky enough to attend the 2005 EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI. Debbie worked the NASAO information tent talking with visitors about Montana, aviation and handed out charts and directories for many states including Montana. Visitors commented on the appreciation of their presence and assistance. FAA Administrator Marion Blakey and staff visited the NASAO tent together with her counterparts from France, New Zealand and Israel.

Jeanne was invited to join the EAA's Aviation Education team for aviation curriculum development of EAA's Flight Kit and Dreams of Flight aviation education materials. Along with aviation education (with a team of teachers and aviation education specialists) they attended the world's greatest aviation celebration! Each day after the curriculum work was finished, the team joined thousands of aviation enthusiasts to watch the best air show performers show their stuff in the blue sky above Wittman Field at Oshkosh.

AirVenture attracts close to 700,000 people, 10,000 aircraft, 3,000 showplanes featuring SpaceShipOne, the new Honda bizjet, White Knight and Glacier Girl for one of the world's premier aviation events.



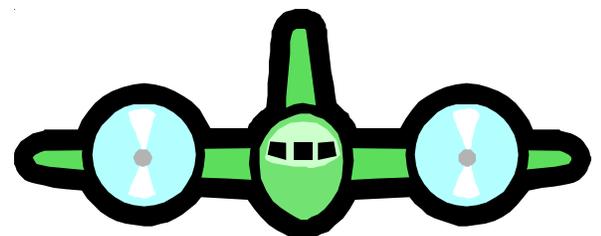
FAA Administrator Marion Blakey visited with staff at the NASAO tent.



Paul Poberezny, founder of the Experimental Aircraft Association and of AirVenture autographed his book "Poberezny.....the story begins" for Debbie.



Jeanne MacPherson is still #1 in Young Eagle flights with 3,316 flights and rising!



# Administrator's Column

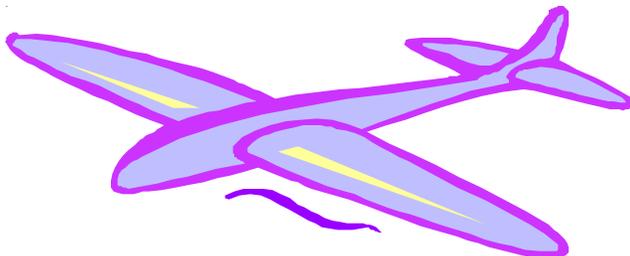
**Flying Alaska Gold - Grizzlies, Gold, Gangsters:** Dave Hoerner, native Montanan and owner of Red Eagle Aviation on the Kalispell City Airport has recently published particulars detailing his flying experiences and his family's gold mining adventures in the Talkeetna Mountains of Alaska. Flying started as a hobby for Dave, a logger at the time, with his first lesson while in his late 20s. Today, Dave is not only a very accomplished, talented mountain pilot but an entertaining and amusing author as well. "Flying Alaska Gold" is available on amazon.com or through Red Eagle Aviation at (406) 755-2376.

**General Aviation Security Act of 2005:** Congressman John Sweeney (R-NY) recently introduced H.R. 3397 a bill to enhance security at general aviation airports. The bill would require all public-use and private-use general aviation airports to register with the Secretary of Homeland Security AND submit a written security plan that documents its security procedures that are consistent with security guidelines for GA airports published by the TSA. The bill has been referred to the House subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection and Cybersecurity. Stay tuned.

**Great Falls airport receives small community air service development grant funds:** Congratulations to Cynthia Schultz, Great Falls Airport Director and the Great Falls Airport Authority for its success in securing \$220,000 from USDOT. Grants awarded this year total just under \$19 million and will benefit 68 communities in 29 states. The Department received 84 grant proposals involving communities in 36 states. The program is designed to assist communities in enhancing its air service and to address issues relating to high airfares. The grant will allow Great Falls to do more targeted marketing specific to air travel in key markets.

**NDB procedures to be retained:** The FAA received over 600 comments to its Notice on Proposed Cancellation of Non-Directional (NDB) Instrument Flight Procedures. As the FAA continues to expand the availability and capability of area navigation (RNAV) procedures, five runways in Montana were on the "hit-list". Runways were considered for procedure cancellation if the specific runway had two ground-based procedures. Runway ends at the Billings, Bozeman, Glasgow, Helena and Miles City airports were included on the proposed cancellation list. After review and analysis by FAA all five Montana airports will retain the NDB approaches.

**Hurricane Katrina:** As many make great efforts to survive one of the worst natural disasters in US history, devastating the Gulf Coast, a countless number of individuals and organizations have come forward with assistance in a variety of ways. Montana is no exception – at the Belgrade airport, more than 16,000 pounds of emergency supplies were donated and delivered to Yellowstone Jet Center. The crew of Ted Turner's Challenger jet made two flights to Baton Rouge, local pilot, Jerry Severson made a trip in his Turbo Commander and Blessing Dredging Company took a load to Houston in its Citation. Ted Mathis, Belgrade Airport Director's e-mail subject line stated: "Great People" – what an awesome show of support by Montanans and in particular Montana's aviation community.



## *Montana and the Sky*

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# events

**September 14-18, 2005** – Reno National Championship Air Races & Air Show – Reno’s Stead Field (4SD). For more information go to [www.airrace.org](http://www.airrace.org).

**September 16-18, 2005** – Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**October 1, 2005** – Hirsch Ranch Fly-In – 30 miles northwest of Miles City.

**October 2, 2005** – Celebration at Museum of Mountain Flying in Missoula; static display and children’s activities; 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – will be accepting non-monetary donations for hurricane Katrina relief efforts. For further information phone John @ (406) 721-3644 or (406) 755-2238.

**October 8, 2005** – Aviation Day Dillon Airport. For further information phone Dennis or Jean Devivo at (406) 683-5242.

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

**February 3-4, 2006** – Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Helena. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**March 2-4, 2006** - Montana Aviation Conference, Red Lion Colonial Inn, Helena. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

## Air Sports & Nature in Harmony

This year’s theme for the International Aviation Art Contest is “Air Sports and Nature in Harmony”. The beauty of the earth is never clearer than when seen from the air. Every day, thousands of people flying in airlines look at the earth with a new perspective from above. Another group of boys, girls, men and women involved in air sports are fortunate to have a special view of the grandeur below them as they soar in gliders or float through the air in balloons. Others feel the rush of air as they parachute down to a beautiful field or cross the sky in an ultra light or helicopter.

From above, the fullness of nature is seen in ways unknowable from the ground. Helicopters give tours of the inaccessible rivers and canyons as balloons float across hometowns, each giving new insight into how land, water, animals, and people share their environments. From the air, one is able to take pictures and film land that would otherwise never be seen. Aircraft do this without the need for roads. An airport or open field will do for the intrepid aviator.

While the air sport participants enjoy this freedom, they also must be very good neighbors to all the people and animals and the environment. This is especially important as they take-off and land. Air sports enthusiasts are happy to do this because the beauty of the earth is one of the reasons they love flying so much. So grab your favorite pen or brush and capture the connection between the land and the air. Create a work of art that shows air sports and nature in harmony.

For further contest information and an application please phone the Montana Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506. Good luck!

## Club Podvig’s Annual Visit



Club Podvig, a cadet program from Magadan Russia has been coming to the United States since 1991. Education, information, personal and professional cultural exchange is the focus of the trip. Many people have helped with the International Program called, “youth of the world”. Loren Smith and Jane Mart host the cadets at the Great Fall’s KOA for their stay in Montana. Club Podvig has made the trip to Montana for the last ten years.

Aviation is an important focus of the Club as the cadets are all skydivers. Montana Aeronautics Division’s Aviation Education/Young Eagle Program is one of the highlights of Club Podvig’s Montana visit. This year, Jeanne MacPherson and Mike Rogan gave the cadets an orientation Young Eagles Flight. Sheila Pfeifer set up the Division’s flight simulator as part of the aviation education program. The

exchange continued when Club Podvig hosted a Russian dinner and program for all the people that made their visit here memorable.

# MAAA Fly-In



*The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Antique Airplane Association's fly-in kicked off on August 4 with Young Eagle Flights – Jeanne MacPherson, Aeronautics Division flew down to take part in the day's activities.*



*MAAA member Garfield Jermunson drove the refreshment truck, which was in high demand with temperatures soaring in the high 90's during the fly-in.*



*The fly-in attracts visitors from all over the US & Canada. Pictured (l-r) are Patty Kautz & Debbie Alke, Aeronautics Division and David Young from Ogden, Utah. David and his group from Utah are annual attendees. Thanks to David for providing us with photos of this event.*



*Wayne Edsall's aircraft a 1940 Cessna Airmaster won the "People's Choice Award" and his good friend Bud Hall also took a few moments to recognize Wayne on his amazing recovery after a devastating stroke. For those of you who haven't had a chance to hear Wayne's truly remarkable story pick up the book "Into the Blue" written by his daughter Susan Edsall – a must read.*



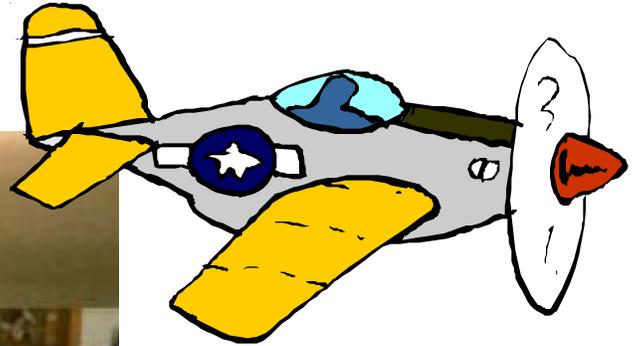
*A big THANK YOU to the FAA for the use of their portable tower and to all of the Helena controllers that volunteered their time for this event. Pictured is Debbie Alke, Aeronautics Division with controller Randal Reynolds.*



*Bob Davis of Helena won first place in the Spot Landing competition, Zola Hamm presented Bob with his award. Great job Bob!*



*Bud Hall has been involved with the fly-in since its inception in 1978. He's always on hand to make sure everything goes off without a hitch.*



*Pictured are Debbie Alke, Aeronautics Division, MAAA members Steve Kleimer, Bud Hall, Cindy Kleimer, and Travis Buck, all of Bozeman. The MAAA group does an excellent job putting on this fly-in- this event is something we look forward to participating in each year!*

## **AVWEB: Your Source for Hurricane Katrina Aftermath Coverage**

“We all want to jump in and help in any way possible. But our piloting skills are not what relief workers need – not yet,” AOPA President Phil Boyer said on the association’s Web site. All along the U.S. Gulf Coast, Hurricane Katrina’s devastation is having an impact on general aviation, from TFRs to closed airports, damaged aircraft, high fuel prices and more. Organizations ranging from the Civil Air Patrol to AOPA, NBAA and the Air Care Alliance are waiting to pitch in to help by making financial contributions and by transporting critical people, equipment and supplies to the stricken areas. What’s next for general aviation in the Gulf Coast, how will the industry respond and what can you do? For the latest coverage be sure to check <http://www.avweb.com>, your online source for the very latest news on how GA is responding to Katrina.

# ACE, Aviation Careers in a Unique Setting

The Montana Aeronautics Division and Federal Aviation Administration along with support of the Helena College of Technology have sponsored the Ace camp for high school students for more than 15 years.

This year's four-day camp included, a tour of the National Guard Aviation Support Center, the Helena Airport Fire training Center, and the Helena College of Technology Airframe and Powerplant School. Rocky Mountain College's Aviation Department of Billings gave a presentation and brought one of their fleet airplanes to Helena. Lunch was held at Captain Jack's, the new café at the Helena Regional Airport.

On Tuesday, the high school student's traveled to Great Falls where they toured the 120<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Air Guard facilities, Fire Station, and the Air Traffic Control Tower. The highlight of the morning was when each of the students flew the F16 simulator. After lunch, the ACE group toured Life Flight at Benefis Emergency Center.

The Wilderness Survival Day was held on top of Stemple Pass. ACE students constructed survival shelters, learned backcountry emergency care and signaled a search aircraft using mirrors, a signal sign and an emergency locator signal. All participants were then treated to meals ready to eat!

Friday was the flight day, which included static displays, preflight, orientation flights and an awards picnic/ceremony.

Thank you to all the volunteers that provided the students with an aviation learning experience: Jake Penwell, John Koehler, Jeff Wadekamper, Sandy Green, Brent Vetter, Elkie Giem, Pete Sanders, SSGT Robert Osier, Raegen Robertson, TSG Duane Dasher, LT. Lee Bouma, Gay Keith, Sgt Mark Klemenovic, Captain Jeff Pepke, Bill Gallea, Harold Dramstad, Leo Wadekamper, Len Wheeler, Clayton Wilhem, Debby Hansman and the whole crew at Montana Aeronautics Division!



*Students and staff of Benefis Hospital Flight Unit, Great Falls.*



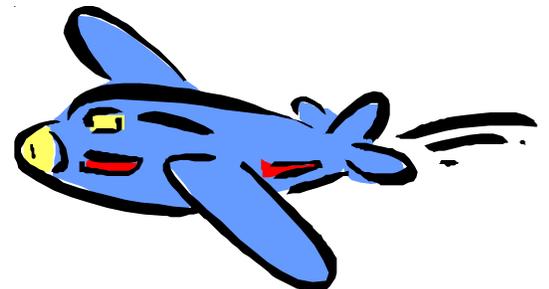
*Students toured the 120<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Air Guard, Great Falls.*



*Students toured the Helena College of Technology, Airframe & Powerplant School, pictured here with instructor Brent Vetter.*



*Survival experts from the 120<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Bob Osier (far left) and Raegen Robertson (far right) taught students some very important survival skills.*



# NTSB Safety Study Looks at Weather-Related Accidents

The National Transportation Safety Board adopted a safety study that examines the risk factors associated with General Aviation (GA) flights into conditions of bad weather and poor visibility. “Weather-related accidents are a leading cause of aviation fatalities and the Safety Board has long been concerned with the disproportionate number of fatal accidents associated with weather,” said Acting Chairman Mark V. Rosenker.

Even though weather-related accidents are not frequent, they account for a large number of aviation fatalities—only 6% of GA accidents are weather-related but they account for more than one in four fatalities that occur in GA annually.

For the study, NTSB investigators collected data from 72 GA accidents that occurred between August 2003 and April 2004. Information about these accidents was compared to a matching group of 135 non-accident flights operating under the same conditions.

The study results suggest that a pilot’s performance history, including previous aviation accidents or incidents, and FAA knowledge or practical test failures are associated with an increased risk of being involved in weather-related GA accidents.

The study also found that pilots who obtain their first pilot certificates earlier in life, or those who obtain higher levels of certifications or instrument ratings, are at reduced risk compared to other pilots.

As a result of the study, the Safety Board called on the Federal Aviation Administration to ensure that pilots have a minimum level of proficiency to recognize and respond to weather hazards. The Board also asked the FAA to identify and provide additional support for pilots whose performance indicates increased risk, and to improve its pre-flight weather services.

The texts of all the recommendations and a synopsis of the report can be found on the NTSB web site at [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov). The complete report will be released at a later date.

## Melvin ‘Swede’ Lindgren

Melvin ‘Swede’ Lindgren was born May 18, 1929, in the Spring Hill area near Belgrade, Montana, the oldest of three sons of Edward Julius and Signe Emeila (Noren) Lindgren, and passed away at Life Care Center of Skagit Valley in Sedro Woolley, Washington, the morning of August 10, 2005.

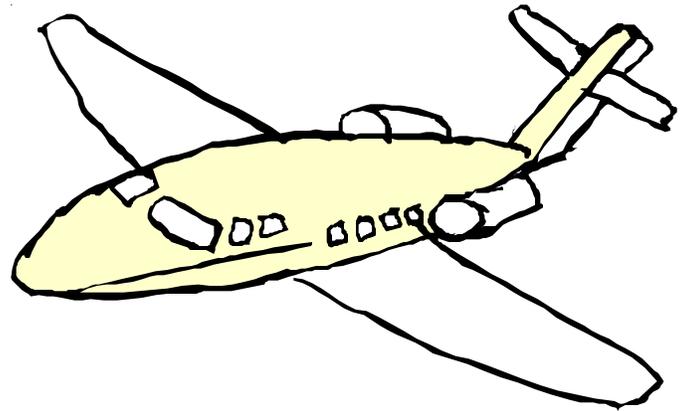
In 1939, Swede’s father passed away. They family moved from their farm in Belgrade where Swede and his two younger brothers developed a serious interest in aviation, working at the airport and learning to fly.

Swede graduated from Belgrade High School in 1947. On August 4, 1965, he married Theresa Joergenson. He served in the Air Force in the Office of Special Investigation, returned to Montana and, until his retirement in 1990, was employed as a pilot for the State, initially with the Fish and Game Department. In 1956 at the beginning of the Interstate Highway System, he transferred to Helena and flew the Department of Highways aircraft with their aerial photogrammetry division. The program of road surveying from initial geological studies and construction to maintenance and mapping followed. He was also privileged to fly eight governors for the State of Montana.

In October of 2000, Swede and his wife traveled to Stanwood, Washington, to her home place intending to “snowbird” later that winter before returning to Montana. Swede became ill in January with a difficult cancer battle he won. In the summer of 2002, he gain entered a prolonged struggle with cancer and would not win this time.

Swede is survived by is wife Theresa, their daughter Teri of Sedro Woolley, Washington, his mother Emelia in Belgrade, Montana; his brother and sister-in-law Roy and Linda Lindgren also of Belgrade, three nieces and their families and several cousins. Besides his father, his brother Raymond preceded him in death in 1958.

Our deepest sympathy to Theresa and the entire Lindgren family.



## Impressions of a Pilot

*Gary Claude Stoker*

Flight is freedom in its purest form,  
To dance with the clouds which follow a storm;  
To roll and glide, to wheel and spin,  
To feel the joy that swells within.

To leave the earth with its troubles and fly,  
And know the warmth of a clear spring sky;  
Then back to earth at the end of the day,  
Released from the tensions which melted away.

Should my end come while I am in flight,  
Whether brightest day or darkest night;  
Spare me no pity and shrug off the pain,  
Secure in the knowledge that I’d do it again.

For each of us is created to die,  
And within me I know,  
I was born to fly.

# The Pessimist's Equipment List

Every pilot has his or her favorite list of tools, equipment and supplies to carry aboard the airplane in the event of an emergency. But that list can and should change from flight to flight. For example, carrying a life raft over the New Mexico desert can be as wasteful as carrying a sleeping bag to the Bahamas or cylinder wrenches if you don't know how to replace a jug. Consider using the checklist below to decide what to carry on each flight.

- Water/purification tablets
- Cell phone in waterproof bag
- EPIRB/GPS with transmitter
- Life vest(s)/raft
- First-aid kit
- Space blanket(s)
- Matches
- Cooking utensils
- Multi-purpose knife
- Sleeping bag(s)
- Mosquito netting
- Firearm/ammunition
- Hatchet or axe
- Fishing equipment
- Sun block/protective clothing
- Warm clothing
- Signaling mirror
- Flares, flare gun
- Sunglasses
- Whistle

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