

# Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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January 2018

## **AOPA President Mark Baker Speaks at Aviation Conference**



*Photo Credit: Mark R. Baker. Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) president*

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) president, Mark R. Baker will address the Saturday Banquet audience at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Montana Aviation Conference in Missoula, March 1-3, 2018. Mr. Baker is a longtime general aviation (GA) pilot and only the fifth president in the 78-year history of the AOPA. Prior to his appointment at AOPA, the Minnesota native served in numerous senior executive roles, including chief operating officer at Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, president and CEO of outdoor outfitter Gander Mountain Company, and chief merchandizing officer and executive vice president for The Home Depot. Most recently, Mr. Baker served as CEO of Orchard Supply Hardware Stores Corp., a leading retailer of home improvement and garden products. Having relied on general aviation for personal and business transportation for many years, Mr. Baker still prefers to fly low and slow in his Piper Super Cub, which he equips with floats or skis according to the season.

# STAFF CHANGES WITHIN AERONAUTICS

On December 31, 2017 and after 31 years of State service, Debbie Alke retired from the Montana Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Division. Debbie started working for the state in 1986, moved to Aeronautics in 1990, and became the Aeronautics Administrator in 2001. She's been recognized by numerous state and national organizations over the years including AOPA, NBAA, and MPA in addition to serving as Chairman of NASAO. Debbie leads by example and is well respected in the aviation community as a strong advocate for aviation in Montana and the country. Her many years of service are greatly appreciated, and she will be sorely missed.

Tim Conway has been appointed Acting Aeronautics Administrator and Wade Cebulski has been appointed Acting Airports & Airways Bureau Chief. Feel free to contact Tim Conway at (406) 444-9547 or by email at [tconway@mt.gov](mailto:tconway@mt.gov) and Wade Cebulski at (406) 444-9581 or by email at [wcebulski@mt.gov](mailto:wcebulski@mt.gov) for questions, concerns, or information.



## Welcome Jake Hemphill

Jake joined MDT Aeronautics Division as the Safety and Education Bureau Chief on January 8th. Jake grew up in Montana, attended Spartan College of Aeronautics, and Rocky Mountain College. He earned a Mechanic certificate with Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) rating, before receiving a degree in Aeronautical Sciences from Rocky Mountain College. Jake worked as a lineman and flight instructor before he began flying King Air as a

medevac pilot. After six years of part 135 operations, he joined the Montana Aeronautics Division. Jake holds an ATP and CFII. Jake and his wife, Jennifer, have a 9 month old daughter.

## Welcome Rylie Warren

When you call MDT Aeronautics chances are Rylie, Administrative Assistant, will answer the phone. Rylie is assisting MDT Aeronautics Division with the influx of pilot and aircraft registration processing. Rylie was born and raised in Helena, MT and attended Capital High School, graduating in class of 2014. After graduation she attended the Helena College studying general business and accounting before she had her first daughter, Mara. Rylie loves the outdoors and being close to her family.

## Effie Benoit Receives Five Year Service Award

Effie Benoit, Aeronautics Division Accountant, received her five year service award at the Hel-



*Photo Credit: John Ascherman. Left, Tim Conway and Effie Benoit.*

ena Service Awards ceremony on December 15, 2017. Effie has been employed with the state of Montana since November of 2012. She started her career at the Office of Public Instruction and moved to MDT Aeronautics in 2015.

**Montana and the Sky**  
Department of Transportation

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Mike Tooley, Director

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Tim Conway, Acting Administrator

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Editor: Patricia Trooien

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# Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC) Venue Change

## Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC)

*Calling All CFI's & Chief CFI's!*



The MDT Aeronautics Division is hosting Aviation Seminars for the 2018 FIRC February 9th and 10th at the Comfort Suites, located at 3180 N. Washington Street, Helena, Montana. Reserve your room by calling 406-495-0505 and reference rooming block "FIRC". This two-day, FAA approved course will run from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Friday, and from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. This course meets FAA's renewal requirements for certified flight instructors (CFI & Chief CFI) and includes IACRA renewal.

### Dates

February 9-10, 2018

### Location

Comfort Suites  
3180 N. Washington Street  
Helena, MT

### Tuition Information

Montana Registered Pilots: \$175.00  
Non-Montana Registered Pilots: \$195.00

### Registration

Register for the FIRC online:  
<https://www.aviationseminars.com/mt-firc>

### More Information

For more information call Patricia Trooien  
at 406-444-2506 or email [ptrooien@mt.gov](mailto:ptrooien@mt.gov)

Not a Montana registered pilot? Register as a Montana pilot (MT Airport Directory and newsletter included) and save \$20.00 off the FIRC registration. More info on Montana pilot registration: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/regpilot.shtml>

## Unmanned Aircraft Systems:

### Montana Registers as an Interested Party

Montana Aeronautics completed the required paperwork to register as an interested party for the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration Pilot Program (UAS IPP). The UAS IPP is an opportunity for state, local, and tribal governments to partner with private sector entities, such as UAS operators or manufacturers, to accelerate safe UAS integration. The program is expected to provide immediate opportunities for new and expanded commercial UAS operations, foster a meaningful dialogue on the balance between local and national interests related to UAS integration, and provide actionable information to the Department of Transportation (DOT) on expanded and universal integration of UAS into the National Airspace System. The program will:

- Use existing Federal authorities to accelerate testing of currently restricted UAS operations – such as beyond-visual-line-of-sight flights and flights over people.
- Open the skies for the delivery of life-saving medicines and commercial packages, inspections of critical infrastructure, support for emergency management operations, and surveys of crops for precision agriculture applications.
- Allow testing of new UAS traffic management systems and detection and tracking capabilities, which are needed to fully integrate UAS operations into the national airspace system.
- Increase the number and complexity of UAS operations across the nation, and will help in the development of a future national aviation regulatory framework that can fuel American leadership in unmanned aviation.

For more information, visit [https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/uas\\_integration\\_pilot\\_program/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/uas_integration_pilot_program/).

# MDT Aeronautics Division Awards

## Half Million in Grants and Loans

Montana- The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Aeronautics Board approved a approximately \$575,000 in grants and loans to be awarded in support of various large and small airport projects throughout Montana during fiscal year 2019. The requests were for a variety of improvement projects that focused on lighting enhancements, runway, taxiway and apron reconstruction projects. Funding for this program is provided by a \$0.02 / gallon tax on fuel sold to general aviation aircraft in Montana. Most of the money awarded in grants and loans each year goes to leverage 90/10 Federal (FAA) match dollars for large airport construction projects. Any public airport is eligible to apply for assistance through the loan and grant program. Funds can be used for a wide variety of airport and aviation related projects. Applications for the funding are due for submission to the Aeronautics Division on November 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, and the funding is typically awarded in January of the following year. Although the money is awarded in January, the funds are not available until the beginning of the next fiscal year - July 1. During their meeting, the Montana Aeronautics Board reviews the applications and hears public comment before making their final award determinations for the upcoming fiscal year.

For more information regarding the program, please contact Wade Cebulski, MDT Aeronautics Division, at [wcebulski@mt.gov](mailto:wcebulski@mt.gov) or call (406) 444-9581.

The projects funded for FY 2019 are as follows:

AIRPORT	GRANT AMOUNT	LOAN AMOUNT
Cut Bank - PVMT Rehab	\$22,750	\$37,538
Ennis - PVMT Rehab	\$30,988	\$0
Hamilton - PVMT Rehab/Beacon	\$35,877	\$0
Havre - PVMT Rehab	\$35,175	\$82,913
Laurel – Const RWY	\$20,289	\$0
Lewistown - PVMT Rehab	\$38,777	\$77,818
Scobey - PVMT Rehab/Lighting	\$60,000	\$100,000
Twin Bridges - PVMT Rehab/Lighting	\$28,210	\$0
Wolf Point – Lighting	<u>\$3,463</u>	<u>\$1,731</u>
TOTALS	\$275,529	\$300,000

Large Commercial Service Airport Pavement Preservation Program

AIRPORT	GRANT AMOUNT
Billings	\$12,857
Bozeman	\$12,857
Butte	\$12,857
Great Falls	\$12,857
Helena	\$12,857
Kalispell	\$12,857
Missoula	<u>\$12,857</u>
Total	\$89,999

**ATTENTION!**

## Resale Program

**ATTENTION!**

The Montana Aeronautics Division resale program consists of replacement parts and supplies that are available for Montana private and public use airports to purchase. The Aeronautics Division keeps an inventory of parts and lamps for runway lighting systems, PAPI and VASI approach lighting systems, airport rotating beacons, windsocks and frames. We also assist airports in locating hard to find parts for old lighting systems and other parts that may be difficult to locate.

For technical assistance and pricing, please contact Jan Smith at [jansmith@mt.gov](mailto:jansmith@mt.gov), call [406-444-9592](tel:406-444-9592) or the MDT Aeronautics Office at [406-444-2506](tel:406-444-2506).

# Basic Inland Search and Rescue Course

## Held in Helena January 10 and 11, 2018



On January 10th -11<sup>th</sup> the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) was in town to provide search and rescue training. Attendees included Aeronautics staff, district coordinators, aviation volunteers, military personnel, and members of the Civil Air Patrol. Dan Conley, Lt. Col. Manner, and Staff Sgt. Floyd, from Tyndall Airforce Base, was on hand to teach the course. The two-day course consisted of a detailed briefing on what the AFRCC does, and can do to aid in search and rescue operations. Material on search theory, planning a search operation, and putting a plan into action was also covered on the first day. On the second day, Mr. Conley put the class through a simulated search and rescue scenario. The scenario was quite in-depth; it took much of the day to track and locate a downed aircraft. We would like to thank the AFRCC for providing Montana with this priceless training. A special thanks to Dan Conley, Lt. Col. Manner, and Staff Sgt. Floyd. These men take the time to travel around the US providing excellent training which ultimately saves lives. The lessons learned will help in the future search operations throughout the state of Montana.

Photo Credit: Danny Conley Instructor  
Danny Conley, CIV, USAF AFRCC



## 2018 Aircraft Registration Deadline March 1st, 2018

**Aircraft Registration:** 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 five 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, sign and return it to MDT Aeronautics Division before March 1, 2018. Second notices will be mailed in early February.

**Please mail your aircraft registrations in by March 1st, 2018 to avoid late penalty fees.**

**Pilot Registration:** 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, Search and Rescue Clinic, Flight Instructor Refresher Course, Mechanic Refresher and I.A. Renewal Seminar, and the Aeronautics Resource Library. Registering pilots will receive a Montana pilot card, a 2018 Montana airport directory and the monthly newsletter, *Montana and the Sky*. The information collected on pilot registration forms become invaluable in the event of search and rescue operations. Pilots interested in volunteering as search pilots and spotters may indicate this on their registration form.

Online aircraft and pilots registration is available at <https://app.mt.gov/aeronautics/registration/Contact/Lookup>.

Have you mailed your pilot and aircraft registration to the Aeronautics office and not yet received your pilot card and airport directory or aircraft decal in the mail? Aeronautics staff have been hard at work processing pilot and aircraft registrations.

**We thank you for your patience during this busy time.** For more information or questions, please contact the MDT Aeronautics Division's main office at (406) 444-2506.

# Montana Aircraft Mechanic Refresher & I.A. Renewal Seminar

**Holiday Inn Downtown**  
200 S Pattee Street  
Missoula, Montana

*(Reference rooming block  
**Montana Aviation Conference  
2018** to receive the prevailing state  
rate.)*

The Montana Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Division will once again be offering an I.A. renewal seminar in association with the 2018 Montana Aviation Conference. Aviation industry representatives and the FAA will offer many interesting educational programs.

Mechanics and Authorized Inspectors attending the seminar must register for the Aviation Conference, which allows you to attend any of the conference events. Please use the enclosed registration form to register for the conference.

For more information, contact Jan Smith at [jansmith@mt.gov](mailto:jansmith@mt.gov) or (406) 444-9592.



## NEW THIS YEAR: NO WALK-INS ALLOWED

**Due to limited seating, IA Mechanic Seminar registrations will be accepted until sessions are full.**

**Late registrations will be accepted at conference registration**

**For more information regarding Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Inspection Authorization Renewal requirements and forms, visit:**

[https://www.faa.gov/about/office\\_org/field\\_offices/fsdo/hln/](https://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/field_offices/fsdo/hln/)

**When registering, please indicate sessions that you plan to attend.  
Only 2 sessions are required to meet Part 65.93.**

### **Friday, March 2, 2018**

#### **Session 1**

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Randy Bibb, ASL CamGuard  
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Darrold Hutchinson, Hutchinson Aviation  
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Break  
10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – John Nielson & Larry Schlasinger, Flight Resources

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch Break

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Zach Lincolnhol, Champion Aerospace

*Total training hours for Friday, March 2 Session 1 = 4.25 hours*

#### **Session 2**

2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. – Kristi Dunks, NTSB

3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. – Rex Anderson

5:15 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. – Jeff Vercoe, FAA

*Total training hours for Friday, March 2 Session 2 = 4 hours*

### **Saturday, March 3, 2018**

#### **Session 3**

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. – Martin Clemons, Electrical Engineer

8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. – Break

8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. – Alan Jesmer, Precision Airmotive

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Brian Cox, Tempest Plus

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Break

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Roger Fuchs, FAA DER

*Total training hours for Saturday, March 3 Session 3 = 4 hours*

#### **Session 4**

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Mike and Jessie Ellis, PinnaCal

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Rex Anderson

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. – Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. – Greg Cross, Cross Petroleum Services

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. – Jeff Vercoe, FAA

*Total training hours for Saturday, March 3 Session 4 = 4 hours*

**Please Note:** Date and time for speakers at Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar & IA Renewal are subject to change without notice.

# Calendar of Events

**February 9 & 10, 2018 - Flight Instructor Renewal Course (FIRC)** - The MDT Aeronautics Division is hosting Aviation Seminars for the 2018 FIRC February 9th and 10th at the Comfort Suites, located at 3180 N. Washington Street, Helena, Montana. This two-day, FAA approved course will run from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Friday, and from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. This course meets FAA's renewal requirements for certified flight instructors (CFI & Chief CFI) and includes IACRA renewal. Register for the FIRC online at <https://www.aviationseminars.com/registration-form/?type=firc>. This 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. For more information call Patricia Trooien at (406) 444-2506 or email [ptrooien@mt.gov](mailto:ptrooien@mt.gov).

**March 1-3, 2018 - The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Aviation Conference** - Will be held in Missoula, Montana at the Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown located at 200 South Pattee, Missoula, Montana. Rooms have been blocked at prevailing government rate plus tax. Reserve your room by calling (406) 721-8550 and reference rooming block **Montana Aviation Conference 2018**. Reserve your room prior to January 29, 2018 to receive the reduced rate. For more information, contact Effie Benoit at (406) 444-9580 or [efbenoit@mt.gov](mailto:efbenoit@mt.gov).

**March 2-3, 2018 – Montana Aircraft Mechanic Refresher & I.A. Renewal Seminar**, Holiday Inn Downtown, Missoula. For further information, contact Jan Smith at (406) 444-9592 or email [jansmith@mt.gov](mailto:jansmith@mt.gov).

**March 5-11, 2018 - 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 8<sup>th</sup>, 1910. For details, <https://www.womenofaviationweek.org/>

**June 15-16, 2018 – AOPA Regional Fly-In, Missoula International Airport** - Enjoy exhibits, seminars, and aviation events. For more information visit <https://www.aopa.org/community/events/aopa-fly-ins/2018-aopa-fly-ins>.

**June 23, 2018 – Sanders County Pilot Assn. 2nd Annual Wings & Wheels Car Show and Fly-in** - Thompson Falls, MT Airport. 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Free admission. For more information call (406) 529-4059.

**Jul 28, 2018 – Airport Open House and BBQ Potluck**, Lincoln Airport, (S69).

**August 3-4, 2018 - Three Forks Fly-In** – For more information about this two-day event, contact Pat Green at [greenrg@aol.com](mailto:greenrg@aol.com) or call (406) 285-6949.

## “Check-Out” the Video/DVD Library at MDT Aeronautics!

2630 Airport Road, Helena, MT 59620-0507

The MDT Aeronautics Division Video/DVD Library is driven by the needs of the piloting community. Whether you are researching aviation history, flight test preparation or in need of specific training resources – the Aeronautics Division Library has the resources to meet your needs and those of the whole community. Video suggestions can be made by calling (406) 444-2506.

To see what is available go to: [http://mtsc.sdp.sirsi.net/client/en\\_US/MT-DOT/](http://mtsc.sdp.sirsi.net/client/en_US/MT-DOT/) and click on the **Aeronautics** Collection on the left.



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.

Aeronautics Division  
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Helena, Montana 59620-0507



## Vision Zero: A Goal for Everyone

In 2017, there were 187 fatalities on Montana roads.

What does that mean? 187 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 2016 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](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero) for more information.

**VISION ZERO**  
zero deaths · zero serious injuries

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION**

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