

MONTANA PILOTS' ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED



www.montanapilots.org

Nov/Dec 2010 Bi-monthly newsletter

Heading Bug

President's Message

Greetings To All,

Seems like I just wrote the President's message a couple of weeks ago and now that darn newsletter editor is bugging me for a new one with a deadline, just kidding Mary and thanks for taking on the responsibility. Speaking of responsibilities I would like to thank some of the past MPA Hangar officers who have done a great job over the last few years and have recently found someone to replace them. I would also like to thank the ones whom have taken on the job of filling those big shoes.

Organizations are as only as good as the volunteers and we seem to have a pretty good bunch. I would like to encourage other members of the Hangars to take on the job of some officer's position if you get the chance and relieve the one's that have done a fine job, but are just burned out. I think you will find the job rewarding with lots of self satisfaction. Just think where aviation in Montana and elsewhere would be without organizations such as MPA, a little bit of effort goes a long ways.

I have spent quite a bit of time lately going to meetings in Billings a couple of times and writing letters to the Air Force, FAA and politicians concerning the proposal to expand the Powder River MOA in eastern Montana. I am hoping these efforts will do there part in stopping this expansion. It will change things dramatically if we fail. IFR and commercial operators will be hit extremely hard during times of activation.

The MDOT director Jim Lynch, Debbie Alke from the Aeronautics, Senators Max Baucus and Senator Jon Tester have all voiced their concerns over this proposal and the ill effects it will have on aviation in Montana. I am hoping that many of our members took the time to make comment because this proposal will affect us all for many years. So thank you to everyone that participated.

On the lighter side I have taken my rifle on a major hike every weekend for the first half of hunting season but no dinner on the table yet. I am hoping that I can fly just a little bit better than I can hunt or this is not going to be good.

Fly safe.

Wade Cebulski, President



Three Forks FBO



As most of you already know, the FBO in Three Forks is under new management. Cody Folkvord purchased the establishment this last spring and has been welcomed with open arms from the local flying community.

Cody is an aspiring spray pilot in the Gallatin Valley area, which is why it made perfect sense to him to purchase the FBO which he renamed Headwaters Flying Service. Headwaters Flying Service is a Full-Service Fixed Base Operation, providing such services as: Annual Inspections, Engine Rebuilds, Avionics Testing to Intensive Ground-Up Restorations.

Cody was lucky to hire on a new mechanic, Steve Goodman, who is an Inspection Authorization with 32 years of aviation experience. Steve has worked on and flown everything from General Aviation, Corporate Jets, to Helicopters. Headwaters Flying Service is very proud to have someone with Steve's knowledge and vast experience heading up its maintenance program. Headwaters Flying Service is working in conjunction with the newly restored Sacajawea Hotel in Three Forks. The Sacajawea Hotel has a reduced "Pilot Rate" for those flying in to Three Forks and not only has luxurious rooms, but also a fine-dining restaurant, Pompey's Grill, along with a downstairs bar that serves a Pub Menu and has Live Music on the weekends. Cody has provided two Courtesy Cars at the FBO for pilots to use while they are in town. A Sign-In Sheet is available inside the FBO. Please call Cody or the Sacajawea Hotel for questions concerning the Courtesy Cars.

By providing pilots and the community with the new FBO Cody hopes to put Three Forks, Montana's Favorite Small Town, on the map as a Destination Airport. Cody's goal at Headwaters Flying Service is to provide great service at a quality price in order for You, the Pilots, to stay up in the air!




Cody Folkvord
Owner

1680 Airport Road
PO Box 951
Three Forks, MT 59752
(406) 285-3006
headwatersfs@gmail.com
On-Call Cell: (406) 439-4179

Full Service Fixed Base Operation
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Thank you to **Headwaters Flying Service** and **Sacajawea Hotel** for supporting our newsletter!



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We invite you to fly into Three Forks to relax in one of our spectacularly renovated guest rooms and dine in our fabulous new steakhouse, Pompey's Grill.

Complimentary transportation to and from Pogreba Field.

406.285.6515 • fax: 406.285.4210 • www.sacajaweahotel.com
P.O. Box 648 • 5 N. Main St. • Three Forks, MT 59752

Did you know??

Speak to your companies....many companies have funds available if you volunteer time to an organization! A few minutes of your time to fill out paperwork could add necessary monies to our scholarship funds.

Welcome New MPA Members

We appreciate your support!

Craig Hash, Lewistown, MT Central MT
Denise Hash, Lewistown, MT Central MT
Gil Crouse, Lewistown, MT Central MT
Ryan Osmundson, Buffalo, MT Central
Alan Metzler, Reedsville, PA At Large
Paul Beard, Bigfork, MT Flathead Hangar
Frank Boling, Bigfork, MT Flathead Hgr
David Woodcock, Sequim, WA At Large

Share Your Love of Aviation.... Scholarships Available!

The Montana Aeronautics Division assists the MPA in administering our scholarships as well as scholarships offered by others. The complete list of available scholarships is listed in their newsletter, Montana and the Sky. The MPA scholarships are offered to a Montanan to help defray costs of education and will be presented during the MPA Annual General Membership Meeting at the 2011 Montana Aviation Conference in Helena. Awarding of the scholarships will be based on a letter explaining the reasons for applying, future career goals, past aviation experience and any outstanding achievements. The same letter can be submitted but applicant must submit one copy addressed to each individual scholarship they are applying for. Letters of application must include a mailing address and daytime phone number. If you are selected to receive one of the scholarships your photo will appear in the 2011 Montana Aviation Conference Program, please include a photo with your applications for this purpose (only one photo necessary). Letters should be mailed to: Montana Aeronautics Division, PO Box 200507, Helena, MT 59620-0507 or call (406) 444-2506 for further information. **Letters must be postmarked on or before, January 7, 2011.**

Montana Pilots' Association - Junior Pilot Scholarship – This recipient is chosen for outstanding interest in aviation, citizenship within their community and demonstrated academic achievement. The recipient must have soloed and be actively involved in flight training. This is a \$750 scholarship.

MPA Air Safety & Education Foundation – Flight Training Scholarship – This scholarship is open to a person who has a considerable interest in aviation. The \$750 scholarship is to be used for flight training.

The *Jr. Pilot Scholarship* has been supported for many years by the sales of merchandise, 50/50 tickets and donations. The *Flight Training Scholarship* is being distributed through our 501(c)(3) foundation beginning with this 2011 award and it will be funded through our cap sales and other donations which have been designated for education. If you would like to contribute to either of these scholarships, please send a check to MPA Secretary, PO Box 1178, Seeley Lake, MT 59868. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

MPA Calendar of Events

March 3-5, 2011 – Montana Aviation Conference. Red Lion Colonial Hotel, Helena. For further information phone (406) 444-9580. **Info:** Patty Kautz 406-444-9580 or pkautz@mt.gov

June 11 –13, 2011 - Missouri Breaks - Winifred, MT - Friday: Early arrival, dinner on your own or downtown for a 2-handed hamburger. Sat 11 June: Flyout or Meet in LWT. PM: Flyout and camp at Cow Creek ... CowCreek BBQ, RSVP TheCubWorks. Sunday: Explore Breaks strips, move camp to Winifred. Dinner by the plate in Hangar. Monday: AM departure...For questions call Ralph @ 406 462 5487

Go to our website – www.montanpilots.org to add your Hangar meetings and events to the Calendar of Events.



**WEBSITE
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1.888.AIRBSE1**

Thank you Rob Duncan at Airbase 1 for supporting our website!

MPA Hangar Reports

Valley Hangar Report

Submitted by Russ Dahl, Secretary 4/8/2010

The Valley Hangar has been meeting on the second Tuesday of the month 6:30 PM at the Hangar Cafe on HWY 2 E of Glasgow. We are planning to give rides for the eighth grade students on May 7th. Previously we called them Young Eagle Rides, now we refer to it as Aviation Appreciation Rides. The Valley Hangar has been giving the eighth grade students rides for over 25 years (Longer than the EAA's Young Eagles Programs existence) On June 20th the Valley Hangar will be cooking at the Father's Day Breakfast at Fort Peck (37S) Everyone is invited. We are in the planning stages for hosting some BBQ's this summer. One at the new Poplar airport (PO1) and one at Jess Erickson's airfield, north of Saco, Mt. We have gathered windows and some of the building materials for a pilot shelter at Fort Peck, also hope to finish that project this summer. (Sorry this is such a belated posting!)

Central Montana Hangar (9/15/10)

Submitted by Pete Smith, President

The Central Montana Hangar has 32 paid-up members. We meet the last Tuesday of each month (with the exception of July and August) for a dinner meeting at the Yogo Inn in Lewistown. We typically have 25 +/- members and guests in attendance, get started at 1830 and are usually finished by 2100. All MPA members past and present are always welcome.

We started the summer off with a Fly-in Breakfast at the LWT Airport and served about 280 meals which netted our Hangar just over \$800. This profit is used to help pay for the utilities at the MPA pilot lounge which is open 24/7 and located in the old FSS building.

During the summer several members flew out to state aviation activities including work sessions at different backcountry strips. Our Grand Finale however was the work session and opening of Russian Flat on Aug 21st where we served a pancake breakfast and steak dinner to the hungry participants. About 40 people attended with 19 airplanes.

To end the summer we held our summer picnic at

Pete and Margaret Smith's house 5 NE of LWT. Steaks were grilled over an open fire by Jeff Patnode with each one being grilled to perfection. It was a beautiful evening with a light wind out of the west with 5 airplanes and one helicopter flying in along with 31 members and guests.

For the rest of the year we are planning the following: a fly-in to Russian Flat to plant some more grass seed, aviation historian/Artist Larry Chambers scheduled to be our program at our November meeting and our annual Christmas party.

EAA Chapter 1122 Exceeds Young Eagles Flights Season Goal

Submitted By Carmine Mobray

Northwest Montana was graced Saturday, October 2 with clear, warm skies as Polson's EAA Chapter 1122 hosted enough Young Eagles to exceed their 2010 goal of 100 flights by a couple dozen. The season's highest volume day was July 23, when 66 Young Eagles flew out of 2,600-foot long St. Ignatius at the base of the beautiful Mission Mountains.

Eleven Chapter 1122 pilots shared this summer's flying, and Chapter president Mauri Morin said, "We had a great season. We saw a lot of new faces and as in the past, a few repeats, with their EAA complimentary logbooks in hand."

Saturday's flights included aerial views of spectacular Flathead Lake, Kerr Dam and Buffalo Rapids on the Flathead River. Mission Valley area Young Eagle flights are coordinated by Bud Radtke, 883-1245.

MONTANA AIRCRAFT FOR SALE

Aircraft Exchange Network

www.AircraftExchangeNetwork.com

Steve Rossiter 406 529-1601

Sherry Rossiter 406 544-6182

Thank you Steve and Sherry for your support of our newsletter!

The Future of General Aviation

Submitted by Chuck Jarecki, Polson, Montana

General Aviation is under assault in our country. After 50 years of outstanding experience as a pilot, it is beginning to occur to me that my generation of pilots may be the last ones who are, well ... pilots. The word "pilot" originated as the Indo-European root "ped" meaning "foot", as in "pedestrian" or "pedal". It referred to the steering oar out the back of a boat. That oar –the foot– determined where the vessel would go, and was controlled by the "pilot". In 1848 the French applied the term to those who flew balloons. The term stuck, and 162 years later we are still aerial pilots. For seaplane pilots it is both the water rudder and the air rudder that we steer with our feet. I like to think that a seaplane pilot is truly still the most basic of pilots – with one foot in the water and the other in the air.

Why do I say that general aviation is under assault? Just look at the laws and regulations that the FAA, the TSA, and various other government agencies are trying to pass to limit what pilots can do. The flying dream is that man might someday fly by his own control and desire. The limitations being attempted on small aircraft are nailing a coffin around general aviation. Sure, there will be plenty of seats available on the giant aircraft of the future. But the 10,000-year-old dream that man can fly like a bird is in real jeopardy.

Let's list three major fronts that are under attack:

--The FAA is focusing more and more on scheduled service as being the sum of what "aviation" means. The FAA staff is now predominantly non-pilots, who view their work as administrators to serve the airlines. They are not open to finding ways to facilitate general aviation and allow it to thrive. The FAA's management view of a general aviation airport has not changed in 50 years. They are choking it to death.

--The TSA is focusing on making it more difficult for pilots and non-pilots to access general aviation airports and planes. Eliminating freedom of flight is one easy approach to counteract terrorists and can look like positive action, even if it does nothing in reality. In a democracy, one must harness the

good will of the citizens to watch over and protect each other. General aviation pilots need to be viewed as a major part of the solution to solving aviation terrorism, not as the problem

--Federal land agencies are trying to appear more environmentally friendly. In the past some of their policies have been disastrous. They find it convenient to throw in elimination of any aviation activity to their impact statements. To the uneducated it can appear that they are making progress in protecting the land, when it is often in reality just a straw dog – a false issue that soothes the general public and allows the agency to avoid addressing the important issues at hand.

As pilots, we need to be proactive and supportive. We are a small, generally unheard, special interest group. Join the general aviation activist organizations that work to protect your rights on a local, state and national level. This would include AOPA, the Recreational Aviation Foundation, your state pilots' association and others that may pertain to your local area or special interest, like seaplanes. Participate in the associations' activities that will help achieve positive results. Be cooperative, a team player and non-confrontational. Enjoy flying out for a breakfast with your fellow aviators or a weekend camping trip to a back-country airstrip, but then take the time to work to protect your rights. When called upon, write appropriate letters to elected officials and policy makers, promote your local airport, tell the story of why GA is an important component of our nation's transportation system. By standing together and working together we can protect general aviation's rightful place in America.

*The views expressed in this and other articles in the MPA Heading Bug are not necessarily those of the entire organization, but rather reflect individual viewpoints.

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mpasecretary@blackfoot.net for details.

MPA STATE OFFICERS

*Wishing you a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!*



Please update your email address

If your email address has changed in the last few years and it has not been updated in the MPA website, please email Will Stene will@steneaviation.com or Geanette Cebulski mpasecretary@blackfoot.net, ask them to update it and email your new login password to you. Without updated email addresses we cannot contact you with notifications regarding event changes or cancellations. Please help us out with this. Thank You!

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