



Yellowstone Airport welcomes newest tenant!

Air Idaho, an Air Methods company, commenced new air ambulance service operations at its newly established base at the Yellowstone Airport. This is very exciting news for Yellowstone National Park (YNP) and the Town of West Yellowstone. Air Methods is an important service that will significantly decrease patient transport times. Transports from inside YNP can take as long as 2.5 hours via traditional ground ambulance transportation. Air Methods can be off the ground within 6 minutes of a notification and can be anywhere in YNP within 12 minutes! After minimal time spent on the ground facilitating and loading a patient, the Bell 407 helicopter can arrive at a hospital within approximately 40 minutes.

Air Methods operates over 300 bases and serves 48 states; while providing benchmark service and ensuring that their staff is well trained and equipped to function effectively and efficiently in their capacity as emergency medical personnel. They have achieved the maximum level (level 4—continuous improvement stage) of the voluntary Safety Management System (SMS) program developed by the FAA. Air Methods joins a select group of only seven other commercial air operators in the nation—including major U.S. airlines—to achieve level 4 status in the program. In addition, they are the only helicopter operator and air medical provider to achieve this designation.

Yellowstone is one of the most popular vacation destinations in the country, attracting millions of visitors annually. The wide expanse of YNP's profound and pristine landscapes can be remote and isolated from some conveniences and essential services. The presence of Air Methods' air ambulance service at the Yellowstone Airport provides a sense of well-being, safety, and confidence to those that reside in or visit the area. The Yellowstone Airport, community of West Yellowstone, and Yellowstone National Park, welcome Air Methods' new air ambulance service and look forward to a long-lasting mutually beneficial relationship.



Fort Belknap runway 10/28 is temporarily closed to fixed wing aircraft. The Helipad adjacent to the runway is still open for operations. Any questions please call (406) 353-2205.

Cut Bank airport (KCTB) CTAF and runway lighting controller frequency have now been changed to 123.00 Mhz.

Administrator's Column

Powder River Training Complex Update: The Aeronautics Division remains vigilant in activities involving the proposed Powder River MOA expansion with the latest briefing to the Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties, Inc. In a recent inquiry to the USAF, I learned that they hope to deliver the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the FAA sometime next month. At that time a Notice of Availability will be published in the Federal Register and interested parties will be notified that the EIS is available for review. Comments are acceptable and will be considered, but responses are not provided immediately; a 30-day waiting period must occur. The Secretary of Air Force will issue a Record of Decision while simultaneously the FAA is concluding its aeronautical study. The FAA will issue its Record of Decision which will conclude the process. The USAF remains in discussions with the national and state historic preservation offices and the Indian Tribes. MDT will post a link on its website once the EIS is published. <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/>

Cape Air Service: With a full six months of service under its belt, including a harsh winter, Cape Air's enplanements continue to soar over ridership in previous years. For \$49, one-way passengers can fly non-stop between Billings and Havre, Glasgow, Glendive, Sidney or Wolf Point. Since beginning service on December 10, 2013, Cape Air has boarded over 13,000 passengers ; which is just shy of the number of passengers carried in all of 2013 by the previous air carrier who served two additional communities, Lewistown and Miles City. Apprehension by some about the unpressurized Cessna 402 obviously was short lived looking at the numbers. Reliability and on-time performance are two key components to any air service and Cape Air's record on both accounts is terrific. Thank you to all of the Cape Air staff for providing this valuable service.

Air Fare America: A pilot, a chef and a treasure hunter head off in an airplane to visit the coolest small airports across the country, sampling the food at the airport restaurants, meeting interesting airport characters and discovering the incredible airplanes and historic items inside the hangars. The producers attended Sun 'n Fun in Lakeland, Florida, to talk with pilots about their favorite spots. The show will trail the three hosts as the chef invades the kitchens of fly-in restaurants, the picker searches for hangar relics and the pilot does the flying.

Third Class Medical Update: The bill to relieve general aviation pilots from the third class medical certification process has attracted over 100 co-sponsors. To recap, the legislation would allow pilots who make noncommercial VFR flights in aircraft weighing up to 6,000 pounds with no more than six seats to be exempt from the third class medical process. Pilots would be allowed to carry up to five passengers, fly at altitudes below 14,000 feet msl, and fly no faster than 250 knots. The FAA will go through a proposed rulemaking process this fall to be followed by a 60-day comment period.

Special Olympics Airlift: The Special Olympics Airlift was a success, flying over 700 athletes from across the U.S. to compete in the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games in New Jersey. The airlift is sponsored and managed by Textron Aviation, and will include Cessna Citation operations together with Beechcraft owners who participated for the first time in the event's 27-year history. More than 100 owners and operators donated their aircraft, pilots and fuel to transport athletes and coaches from 28 departure locations in 22 states. Since the first airlift, more than 10,000 athletes and coaches from across the U.S. have been provided transportation. What an uplifting demonstration of the heart and soul of the general aviation community. Thanks to all that made this possible.

Cool video: Check out this video filmed by a couple of pilots flying over the Judith River, beautiful country. <http://vimeo.com/98450665>



Montana and the Sky

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Calendar of Events

July 24 - Aeronautics Board Meeting. For further information visit www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/aeronautics_board/meeting.shtml or contact Patty Kautz at pkautz@mt.gov or (406) 444-9580.

July 24-26 - Fourth annual CanAm Aerobatics competition will be held at the Cut Bank International airport. Participants from the U.S. and Canada will be flying "in the box" and all participants and spectators are welcome. Updates can be found at www.cutbankairport.org or on Facebook at Cut Bank International Airport.

August 7 – EAA Chapter 344 will be sponsoring a Young Eagles Rally at the Three Forks airport from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The Young Eagles program is a proprietary trademark of EAA, and as always, is intended to promote involvement in Aviation careers and recreational flying by offering free, introductory (first time) flights to kids aged 8 to 17.

August 7-9 - Montana Antique Aircraft Association's 37th Annual Fly In at Three Forks. Begins Thursday at 12:00 p.m. Fly In Theme: Stearman / WWII Trainers. Flour Bombing & Spot Landing contests, aircraft on display, lunch and dinner available Friday and Saturday, free camping on the airport. For further information contact Pat Green at greenrrg@aol.com; Ken Flikkema at (406) 580-6207; Bob Green at (406) 539-7830 or Tim Linn at (406) 451-5897.

August 8-10 - Splash In 2014 sponsored by the Glacier Pilots EAA Chapter 102, Kalispell Montana. Seaplanes, music, a magic weekend. For visiting aircraft, water or land, contact Ry Keller, EAA Director at forestkeller@montanasky.us. Camping, food, and other activities. Musicians and music fans contact Bill Montgomery at bill@stillwaterlanding.com.

August 10 – Lions Club Drive In, Fly In breakfast and model airplane show at Hysham Airport 7:00 a.m. to noon. For further information contact Bob Miller (406) 342-5252 or email bpmiller@rangeweb.net.

August 15-17 - Montana Fun Weekend fly-in and car show at Cut Bank International Airport. Breakfast will be available on Saturday and Sunday mornings with various events and concessions Friday night and all day Saturday. Top three airplane awards of \$100 each will be given on Saturday. Updates can be found at www.cutbankairport.org or on Facebook at Cut Bank International Airport.

August 16 – Russian Flat Work Session, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Hosted by Central Montana Hanger. For further information contact Pete Smith at (406) 366-1435 or pete@hcr-inc.com.

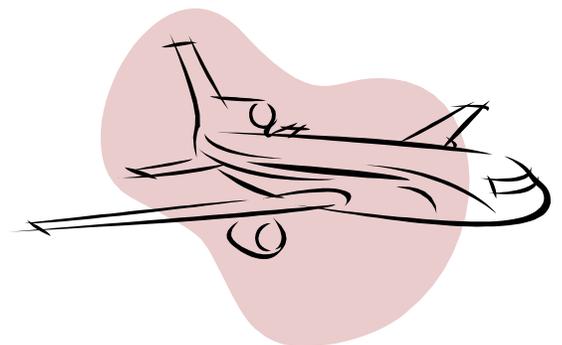
August 22-24 – Pilot Search Clinic, Lewistown, MT. For further information contact Dave Hoerner at (406) 444-9568 or dhoerner@mt.gov.

August 30-31 – Mountain Madness Air Show featuring the USAF Thunderbirds. Glacier Park International Airport (FCA). For further information call (406) 758-2800 or info@kalispellchamber.com or visit www.montanairshow.com.

September 6 – Columbus (Wolterman Memorial) Airport fly-in with breakfast service starting at 8 a.m. For further information contact Hardin Graham: (406) 780-0034; Alan Drain: (406) 780-0171; or Mark O'Bryant: (406) 696-6923.

September 6 – Havre (KHVR) Air Fair fly-in breakfast, airplane rides for youth, sky bowling. For further information contact Willie Hurd 406-265-2977 or pronghorn@mcn.net.

September 20 – Missoula GA barbeque, noon to 4 p.m. Share a day of celebrating general aviation at the "MSO GA BBQ!" Chefs extraordinaire Cris Jensen and Brian Ellestad in their highly anticipated annual appearance. Fantastic restored cars and hotrods by the Garden City Rods and Customs car club, displays of MSO aircraft of special interest including those of the Museum of Mountain Flying. Pilots from around the State are invited to attend, park at Northstar Jet. Mark your calendar! Don't miss this one! For further information contact Gary Matson at (406) 370-6584.



In Memory

Harold F. "Bud" Hall



Harold F. "Bud" Hall, passed away on his 79th birthday, June 30, 2014, at home in Bozeman, surrounded by his family. Bud was born on June 30, 1935, in Lewistown, MT, and graduated from Fergus County High School in 1953. After high school, Bud enlisted in the Marine Corp and served three years, earning the rank of Sergeant. Home on leave, he proposed to his high school sweetheart, Barbara Bauman, and they were married on July 22, 1956. After his discharge, Bud and Barbara moved to Bozeman where he attended Montana State College. He worked for Haggerty-Messmer Construction Company until 1970, when he took a position with Trus Joist where he remained until his retirement in 2004.

Bud was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, American Legion, [BPOE](#), EAA, AOPA, Montana Pilot's Association, Montana Antique Aircraft Association, QB's, and Friend of the Daedalians.

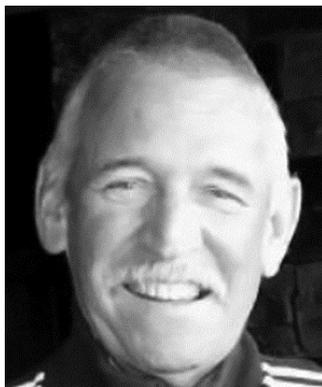
Bud was preceded in death by his parents, Hap and Bobbie Hall, and brother, Hap Jr.

Bud is survived by his wife, Barbara; son, Greg (Dena) Hall of Bozeman; daughter, Jill (David)

Templeton of Helena; and daughter, Jane (Brian) Antonioli also of Helena; his grandchildren, Matthew (Amber) Hall, Season Hall and her son Kaden, Ty Peres, Hannah Antonioli and Sam Antonioli; his brother, Jim (Cindy) Hall of Great Falls, and their children, Tim Hall and Nikki Bandel. He also leaves behind his beloved L-19 Birdog.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Kenneth May and the caring staff at Bozeman Deaconess Cancer Center, Edye and others at Hospice of Bozeman Deaconess, Eric from Cottonwood Case Management and all of Bud's wonderful friends.

Ronald Ralph Gipe



Ronald Ralph Gipe, 68, of Lakeside, Montana died on July 3, 2014 at the age of 68. Ron battled cancer for 6 years but he lived each day simply doing the things he loved.

A celebration of life will be held on July 19 at 4:00 p.m. at the Gembala Residence of 678 Manning Road in Kalispell, Montana. To honor his love of flying, helicopters and fixed wings welcome.

**We offer our condolences to the
Hall and Gipe families-they will be missed.**



South Carolina is 23rd state to include aviation in recreation law

On June 6, South Carolina's legislature voted to amend the State Recreational Use Statute (RUS) to include aviation activities. Governor Nikki Haley signed the law that will now provide SC landowners a level of liability protection when allowing pilots to fly aircraft onto their property. Kathleen Hegenberger, RAF South Carolina State Liaison and RAF member Jim Wilson spearheaded the South Carolina amendment process. It was sponsored by Representative and pilot Gary Simrill, and Representatives "Chip" Limehouse, Mike Sottile and Craig Gagnon, all Republicans.

The RAF wishes to thank South Carolina Aviation Association, AOPA, and Triple Tree Aerodrome for their ardent support throughout the amendment process.



Curtiss Airplane in Butte - 1911



The first airplane sold commercially in the US took place on June 16, 1909. Aviation pioneer Glenn Curtiss made the “Golden Flyer” for the New York Aeronautic Society—price tag—\$5,000. Only two years later Eugene Ely held an exhibition flight tour in Montana to promote Curtiss airplane sales. Ely, who was the first pilot ever to take off and land on a ship, flew the Curtiss D-60 in Butte on June 9, 1911 in front of a crowd of 10,000. Stops in Great Falls, Kalispell, Lewistown and Fort Missoula rounded out Ely’s Montana tour. Ely died in a plane crash in Georgia the next October—he was not yet 25 years old. Photo: Prof. Ely Ready for His Flight over Butte, Montana Historical Society Photo Archives Catalog #ST 001 447-NA Forsyth, Photographer.

Registration opens for Lockheed Martin’s Pilot Web Portal

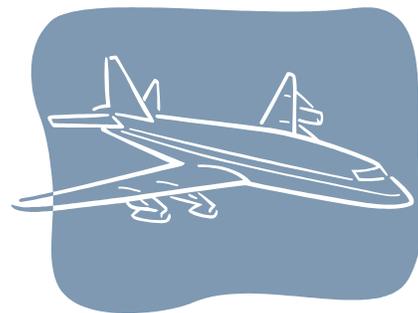
Lockheed Martin Flight Services has opened online registration for its Automated Flight Service Station (AFSS) Pilot Web Portal and new Adverse Condition Alerting Service (ACAS). ACAS.

The Pilot Web Portal, accessible through AFSS.com, allows pilots to file flight plan graphics online directly with LMFS and retrieve the same briefing information and weather provided to LMFS specialists. In addition, pilots will be able to input additional information; including favorite flight plans and personal aircraft data, company officials said.

Pilots who register online and opt-in for ACAS via the Pilot Web Portal will receive alerts of new adverse conditions specific to their flight plans via text, email and Iridium satellite devices. The alerts prompt pilots to call or radio LMFS to receive an abbreviated briefing addressing the new adverse condition.

“Lockheed Martin is excited to release the Pilot Web Portal and ACAS to the general aviation community,” said Jim Derr, director of Lockheed Martin Flight Services.

“Whether you prefer to self-brief or to call us, these new services will enhance safety for general aviation pilots and make it easier than ever to file flight plans with LMFS.”



Surveillance-Enhanced Search & Rescue or “SE-SAR”

Support for more position reporting devices and ADS-B is coming in the near future. Pilots will be able to register their tracking device on the Pilot Web Portal and they’ll monitor your flight and detect if you stop moving, stop reporting, or send an SOS. This allows us to initiate Search and Rescue procedures sooner (versus waiting until you are 30 minutes overdue), and the position history narrows the search area dramatically if an actual search is required.

Gallatin College offers aviation class in dual-enrollment program

By Colin Cashin, KTVM Reporter, reprinted with permission

A dual-enrollment program for Gallatin County high school students is expanding to add flight school to the list of classes.

Dual enrollment allows students to earn both high school and college credit taking college-level courses through Gallatin College at Montana State University.

There were 152 students enrolled in the program during the 2013-14 school year. The program operates at Bozeman High and Belgrade High currently. It will start at Park High in Livingston in the fall of 2014.

Amy Williams oversees Gallatin College's dual-enrollment program. She says after meeting with a Manhattan teacher about the possibility of offering aviation training to high schoolers, the close proximity to Summit Aviation at Bozeman-Yellowstone International Airport helped get the ball rolling quickly.

Williams said, "The airport was a great, central location for all students in the Gallatin Valley."

The goal of the program is to provide high schoolers interested in aviation an opportunity to learn more while earning college credit.

The course focuses on ground training largely taught in a classroom. They will learn the basics from Ryan Haskins, the director of Gallatin College's aviation program.

"I teach this course knowing that students are going to be moving on to be commercial pilots," Haskins explained.

Haskins' class covers communications, mechanics, air safety and flight maneuvers. "The course for our ground school course is certainly a very large component of getting your pilot's license," he explained.

As part of the dual enrollment option, high school students receive the training at half price, around \$250.

Haskins said, "This class is a very inexpensive way to experience aviation. To sort of test the waters, get your feet wet. To see if this is something that's a good fit for the student."

The ground school is just one part of getting a pilot's license -- flight training is also required. Williams says students do not have to enroll in flight training to complete the course but expects many to take the second class.

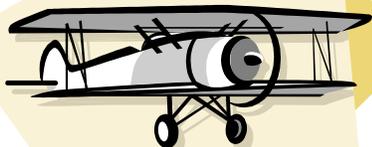
Williams told us, "It's going to be great for students who know that this is the career path they want to pursue. And they can start right in high school."

There are seven seats open to high school students. They have until July 25 to enroll, with classes beginning August 25.

Wanted: Photos and Stories of the Airpark Lifestyle

The August issues of General Aviation News will focus on living the residential airpark lifestyle. For those of you who are living the dream, do you have some great photos of your airpark or airpark home that you'd like to share? Any tips for those searching for an airpark home? What about a story or memory that sums up why airpark living is a perfect fit? For those of you searching for a home, which are your favorite airparks? What are the amenities that excite you?

Send your comments and photos to General Aviation News Editor Janice Wood at janice@generalaviationnews.com.



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Each year, the MDT Aeronautics sponsors an annual Pilot Search Clinic! This year's PSC will be held at the Lewistown Airport and the Yogo Inn in Lewistown, Montana from August 22nd – August 24th. Registration fees are \$140 for the entire clinic or \$70 for ground sessions only.

Registration forms can be found on our website and must be mailed in with a form of payment no later than August 8, 2014. There will be rooms available at the Yogo Inn at a state rate of \$89 per night and we encourage pilots to reserve early as they tend to fill up fast!

The program accepts 24 pilots to participate based on a first come basis and pilots that are accepted will receive an acceptance packet in the mail.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Topics:

- Search & Rescue
- Flight Emergency
- Tracking Devices
- Survival Training
- Mountain Flying
- Triage



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California passes aviation-friendly amendment

Governor Jerry Brown has signed into law Senate Bill 1072, which amends the California Recreational Use Statute (RUS) to include recreational aviation. Since the RUS now protects landowners from liability arising from recreational use of their property, airstrip owners will likely be more receptive to transient pilots.

California becomes the 24th state to include such language in its laws. The Recreational Aviation Foundation (RAF) is spearheading an effort to amend RUS language in states nationwide.

“California is such an important aviation state and this is not only an important day for California but a very big day for aviation as a whole,” said RAF President John McKenna. “The RAF is excited about the momentum this creates to meet our goal of having the RUS passed in all states.”

Senator Jean Fuller (R–Bakersfield) sponsored the bill. She and her husband are both private pilots and recognize the value of general aviation for their 250-mile commute to the state capitol as well as their recreational activities. RAF state liaison John Kounis worked with Senator Fuller’s office to provide aviation-specific research and background information throughout the legislative process.

Representatives from Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the California Pilots Association, and the Association of California Airports also helped rally support for the bill. “It is a win for both airport owners and pilots who now have more recreational opportunities in the state,” Kounis said.



Left to right: California State Liaison John Kounis, Association of California Airports President Ronald Elliott, Senator Jean Fuller, AOPA Western Pacific Regional Manager John Pfeifer, and California Pilots Association Vice President Carol Ford testified at the California Senate hearing on SB1072 on April 22.