

Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

Vol. 67, No. 2

February 2016

Awaken the Aviation Giant – The 32nd Annual MT Aviation Conference!

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Deputy Administrator, Dr. Dava Newman will be this year's banquet speaker on March 5, 2016. She was nominated in January 2015 by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in April 2015 to serve as the Deputy Administrator of NASA. She was sworn in on May 15 and began her duties with the agency on May 18, 2016.

Along with NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Newman is responsible for providing overall leadership, planning, and policy direction for NASA. Newman performs the duties and exercises the powers delegated by the administrator, assists the administrator in making final agency decisions, and acts for the administrator in his absence by performing all necessary functions to govern NASA operations and exercises the powers vested in the agency by law. Newman also is responsible for articulating the agency's vision and representing NASA to the Executive Office of the President, Congress, heads of federal and other appropriate government agencies, international organizations, and external organizations and communities.



NASA Deputy Administrator Dava J. Newman
Credits: NASA/Bill Ingalls

Prior to her tenure with NASA, Newman was the Apollo Program Professor of Astronautics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge. Her expertise is in multidisciplinary research that encompasses aerospace biomedical engineering.

Newman's research studies were carried out through space flight experiments, ground-based simulations, and mathematical modeling. Her latest research efforts included: advanced space suit design, dynamics and control of astronaut motion, mission analysis, and engineering systems design and policy analysis. She also had ongoing efforts in assistive technologies to augment human locomotion here on Earth.

Newman is the author of *Interactive Aerospace Engineering & Design*, an introductory engineering textbook published by McGraw-Hill, Inc. in 2002. She also has published more than 250 papers in journals and refereed conferences. As a student at MIT, Newman earned her Ph.D. in aerospace biomedical engineering in 1992 and Master of Science degrees in aerospace engineering and technology and policy in 1989. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Notre Dame in 1986.

More About the Conference on Page 7...

Administrator's Column

Airline Boardings: Montana airports boarded close to 1.9 million passengers in calendar year 2015. In total more than 3.7 million passengers arrived and departed from our Montana commercial service airports. This is up almost 3% over the number of 2014 passengers. The Yellowstone Airport at West Yellowstone saw an increase in passengers of over 38% due to the introduction of the regional jet by SkyWest Airlines in the 2015 season. The Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport set a record, as it handled over 1 million passengers; the first for any Montana airport.

American Airlines to Serve Bozeman: Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport (BZN) announced that American Airlines will offer new, non-stop seasonal service to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW). "These flights would not be possible without community support from our partners, Big Sky Resort, The Yellowstone Club, Spanish Peaks and Moonlight Basin, the Bozeman Chamber, Bozeman TBID and Yellowstone Country Montana" said Scott Humphrey, Deputy Airport Director. American's service will be operated by its American Eagle regional partners, using Bombardier CRJ-900 aircraft. The seasonal flights will operate daily beginning June 2. Welcome American Airlines and congratulations to Bozeman.

Local hero still flying high: Jason Curtis is grounded for now, but we expect he will be flying high sometime in the future. Curtis, Kalispell's own all-star aviator, flew his final flight last week for the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. He finished three years in the cockpit of an F-16 Fighting Falcon as a solo pilot for the elite air demonstration squadron. During those three years, Curtis participated in 147 air shows at 72 different locations, plus nine fly-overs for special events such as the Super Bowl. Most of us in the Flathead remember Curtis from the 2014 air show at Glacier Park International Airport, where we were proud to watch one of our own screaming through the sky at the Mountain Madness Air Show. Curtis may have landed, but his career still is airborne. He's heading to Georgetown University to obtain a master's degree, may be a State Department intern or White House fellow, and plans to work in an embassy as a foreign affairs specialist. After that, the Flathead High School graduate has his sights set on flying the F-35. The sky's still the limit for Jason Curtis. (reprinted with permission from the Daily Interlake)

New Student Pilot Requirements: Recently the FAA issued a new rule changing the way student pilot certificates will be issued. Aviation medical examiners (AMEs) will no longer issue student pilot certificates. The majority of future applicants will apply through a flight instructor, but the options exists to apply in person at a local flight standards district office, designated pilot examiners, or airman certificate representatives from a Part 141 flight school. Those representatives will accept and process applications but not issue the certificates, which will be plastic, similar to other airmen certificates. The changes will prevent students from receiving their certificate on the same day that they apply as Congress required that all pilot certificate applicants be screened by the TSA before being issued a certificate. The FAA estimates it will take up to three weeks from the time a student applies for a certificate until it is issued. Current student pilot certificates expire but the new certificates will not expire. CFIs will no longer have to endorse the certificate itself, instead putting the endorsement in the student's logbook. The new rule takes effect April 1, but student pilots who have been issued paper certificates before that date will be allowed to continue to use them until they expire. For more information on the rule, which becomes effective April 1, 2016, go to: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-00199>.

Economic Impact Study: MDT's study is well underway and we look forward to the finished product. Field visits should be complete soon. If you haven't returned your airport survey please help the consulting team by responding to the survey and encourage your tenants to do the same. Many airports will receive an individual brochure to assist with promoting your airport. This information is important to MDT as we help quantify aviation's economic contributions to our state and summarize the benefits our airports provide throughout Montana. Thanks for your help.



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Department of Transportation

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Mike Tooley, Director

Official monthly publication of the
Aeronautics Division
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Fax - (406) 444-2519
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AOPA RUSTY PILOTS



GET BACK IN
THE LEFT SEAT.



AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION

AOPA Rusty Pilot Seminar to be Presented at Aviation Conference

MDT Aeronautics Division will be partnering with local flight training professionals at this year's aviation conference to conduct the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Rusty Pilot seminar. This program was developed by the AOPA to create the best environment possible for getting pilots back into the left seat and into the air after a period of time away from flying. If you're feeling a little rusty about your flying skills, this seminar will help you understand what has changed in aviation since you last took the controls, and brush up on your aeronautical knowledge. The 3 hour course will be held on Saturday morning, March 5th, from 8:30 to 11:30. Enrollment is free with paid registration to the aviation conference. Walk-ins are welcome, although advance registration is encouraged. Those interested in enrolling for the course may signup online at:

<https://ww2.eventrebels.com/er/Registration/StepRegInfo.jsp?ActivityID=15904&StepNumber=1>

Membership in AOPA is not required to attend the event. If you have any questions about this training opportunity, please contact Harold Dramstad of the Safety and Education Bureau at 406-444-9568, or hdramstad@mt.gov.

Calendar of Events

February 12-14, 2016 - Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic (FIRC). For further information, contact Harold Dramstad at (406) 444-9568 or email hdramstad@mt.gov.

March 3-5, 2016 - Montana Aviation Conference, Radisson Hotel in Helena. For further information, contact Effie Benoit at (406) 444-9580 or email efbenoit@mt.gov.

March 4-5, 2016 - Montana Aircraft Mechanic Refresher & I.A. Renewal Seminar, Radisson Hotel in Helena. For further information, contact Ken Wilhelm at (406) 444-9592 or email kwilhelm@mt.gov.

March 26, 2016 - EAA Chapter 57 Poker Run - Come one, come all to the early season Flying Poker Run at the new EAA Chapter 57 hangar on the west-end of KBIL. Sign-in and fly-out between 8:00 am and 9:30 am, then return for lunch sponsored by Troop-9 BSA and prizes at 11:30 am. For further information call Steve Inman at (406) 861-8483.

July 2, 2016 - Wings & Wheels, Freedom to Dream – Fly-In Pancake Breakfast at the Ravalli County Airport (6S5) Hamilton, MT from 7:00 am till 10:00 am. Stay for the Classic Car Show or attend the many events happening all day for the entire family! Come early for the Friday evening 50's Sock Hop hosted by the Bitter Rodder's Car Club and then campout overnight in the available camping area! For more information call Choice Aviation at (406) 363-6471 or (406) 240-9710 and ask for Shirley.

Airport Grants and Loans Awarded

By: Tim Conway – Airports / Airways Bureau Chief

On January 21, the MDT Aeronautics Division along with the Montana Aeronautics Board awarded over \$660,000 in loans and grants to various Montana airports as part of its annual loan and grant program. The program, developed 22 years ago, has become a welcome contributor to Montana airports. At any given time, there's usually over a million dollars of Aeronautics Division funds obligated to various airport projects around the state. There was about \$260,000 in grants and about \$400,000 in loans available for disbursement this year. Funding for this program is provided by a \$0.02 / gallon tax on fuel sold to general aviation aircraft in Montana. Although most of the money given in grants and loans goes to leverage 90/10 Federal (FAA) match dollars for large airport construction projects, there is usually a significant percentage awarded for smaller airport projects. Applications for the money are due into the Aeronautics Division on November 15 each year. The funding is typically awarded in January of the following year. However, the funds are not available until the beginning of the next fiscal year - July 1. The nine member Montana Aeronautics Board is responsible for awarding loan and grant funding. This program is open to all public-use airport entities and the money can be used for any qualified airport or aviation related projects. For more information, contact the MDT Aeronautics Division. Below are the awards for fiscal year 2017.

<u>AIRPORT</u>	<u>GRANT AMOUNT</u>	<u>LOAN AMOUNT</u>
Bridger - PVMT Rehab	\$2,917	\$0
Broadus - PVMT Rehab	\$9,400	\$9,400
Canyon Ferry - Fencing	\$4,000	\$0
Chinook - PVMT Rehab	\$4,363	\$43,825
Deer Lodge - Acquire Land / Planning	\$0	\$41,193
Dillon - Snow Removal Equipment / Lighting	\$3,750	\$15,000
Ennis - PVMT Rehab / WX Reporting / Lighting	\$29,377	\$0
Glasgow - PVMT Rehab	\$49,670	\$76,415
Hardin - Fuel Farm	\$10,000	\$0
Havre - PVMT Rehab	\$0	\$19,000
Laurel - WX Reporting	\$7,500	\$0
Livingston - PVMT Rehab	\$6,663	\$13,837
Malta - WX Reporting	\$7,500	\$0
Plains - PVMT Rehab	\$6,359	\$13,425
Polson - PVMT Rehab	\$7,614	\$0
Ronan - Planning	\$0	\$37,000
Roundup - PVMT Rehab	\$7,183	\$11,050
Saint Ignatius - PVMT Rehab	\$30,000	\$10,000
Shelby - PVMT Rehab	\$10,021	\$20,814
Stevensville - PVMT Rehab	\$26,680	\$71,000
Thompson Falls - Fuel Farm / Lighting	\$19,500	\$19,500
West Yellowstone - PVMT Rehab	\$18,944	\$0
TOTALS	\$ 261,441	\$ 401,459

Large Commercial Service Airport Pavement Preservation Program

<u>AIRPORT</u>	<u>GRANT AMOUNT</u>
Billings	\$7,000
Bozeman	\$7,000
Butte	\$7,000
Great Falls	\$7,000
Helena	\$7,000
Kalispell	\$7,000
Missoula	\$7,000
Sidney	\$7,000
Total:	\$56,000



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Scholarship Opportunities

For the first time the Montana Airport Management Association (MAMA) is pleased to offer two new scholarships! The scholarships are \$2,500 each and are available to all eligible Montana college students! Please fill out the application below to apply!

2016-2017 Airport Management Scholarship Application

Student Eligibility and Scholarship Program:

1. Two scholarships of \$2,500 each will be distributed annually
2. Must be a Montana High School Senior or Graduate
3. Enrolled at a Montana College/University
4. Aviation Management or Business Management Major
5. Completed application and essay questionnaire

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Academic Institution: _____

Major: _____

GPA: _____ Credit hours currently enrolled: _____

Attach to this application an essay including:

1. What sparked your interest to pursue a career in the aviation industry?
2. Why are you the best candidate for this scholarship?
3. What are your long term goals and aspirations?

Please submit to:

MAMA Internship and Scholarship Program Committee
c/o MAMA Vice President Class C
Yellowstone Airport
PO Box 306
West Yellowstone, MT 59758
jkadlec@mt.gov

APPLICATIONS DUE BY

2/26/2016

Montana Airport Management Association
MAMA



2015 Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Release

The MDT Aeronautics Division is pleased to announce the release of the 2015 Pavement Condition Index study. The PCI is a numerical index from 0 to 100 that describes the pavement's overall structural integrity and operational condition, with 100 assigned to a new pavement with no flaws and 0 assigned to a highly degraded pavement. The PCI is based on the types, severities, and quantities of pavement distresses identified during on-site visual inspections. To maintain an accurate and reproducible pavement management system, it is important to conduct consistent pavement inspections every time the PCI update is performed (every three years). The original copy is available at the MDT Aeronautics Division and the electronic version can be found on the MDT Aeronautics Division's website at: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/avsystem-plans.shtml>. This study was completed by Robert Pecia & Associates in cooperation with the FAA and the MDT Aeronautics Division. For questions, please contact Tim Conway at (406) 444-9547 or Wade Cebulski at (406) 444-9581.

New & Improved Video/DVD Library!

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 emailing hdramstad@mt.gov.

Stop by our office or go online and reserve your video today!

Go to: http://mtsc.sdp.sirsi.net/client/en_US/MT-DOT/ and click on the **Aeronautics** Collection on the left.

...32nd Annual Aviation Conference Continued

Throughout the conference there will be dynamic speakers with a variety of subjects for concurrent sessions. Be sure to plan ahead and get the schedule at the link below! WWII P51 Ace pilot of "Old Crow" Clarence "Bud" Anderson will be the opening Thursday Luncheon speaker and will have a book signing. There will be an FAA Listening Session with Dave Suomi, Acting Regional Administrator NW Mountain Region available that is quite popular and later, City Service Valcon/Phillips 66 Aviation will be hosting the cocktail hour and exhibitor awards. The popular exhibit booths will open at 10 am and will be available throughout the conference. We appreciate and support our exhibitors and the work they put in each year. They are truly the backbone to the conferences success.

Awaken the Aviation Giant



2016 MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE
March 3-5, 2016 • Helena, Montana



Gary Ellestad of the Seldom Paid Jammers
Credits: Seldom Paid Jammers

Friday starts out early with Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar and IA Renewal. The FAA and Ellsworth Airforce will be presenting updates concerning the Powder River MOA expansion. The day will be busy with a host of sessions and other activities. Retired Airline Captain and former Montana Aeronautics employee Patty Mitchell will be the Friday Awards Luncheon speaker. Friday afternoon, take in the Static display and MPA/RPA hospitality event held at the Exec Air Hangar. Bus transportation will be provided by the Helena Regional Airport. Dinner and two complimentary drink tickets are provided for those who have registered for the entire conference. Entertainment provided by the [Seldom Paid Jammers](#).

The mechanics seminar will continue on Saturday along with many association business and board meetings. There will also be an exciting group of sessions including a flying Companion Seminar presented by the Montana 99's. Last but not least, the banquet dinner will feature guest speaker and Helena hometown native NASA Deputy Administrator Dr. Dava Newman.

To view a draft of the Conference Schedule click [here](#), or visit our website at: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml>.

We'll see you in Helena!

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.

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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.

zero deaths
zero serious injuries

This document printed at state expense. Information on the cost of publication may be obtained by contacting the Department of Administration.