

# Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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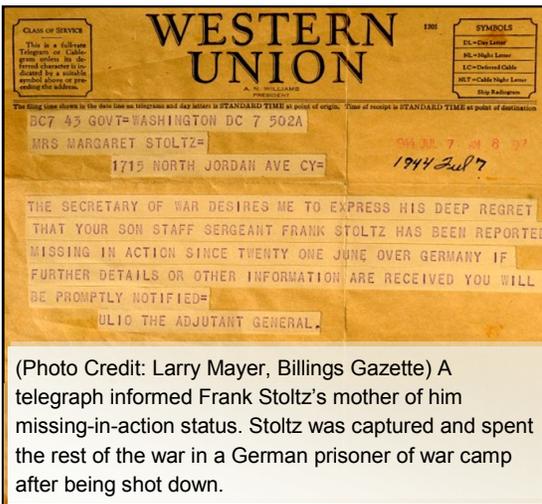
September 2016

## Frank Stoltz of Miles City, a Wright Brothers Master Pilot

On August 5, 2016, veteran pilot, patriot, and aviator, Frank Stoltz was awarded the FAA *Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award* during the Montana Antique Airplane Association (MAAA) Fly-In at Three Forks. Frank was a founding member of the MAAA in 1978 and remains an active member today. He is a soft spoken advocate for all things aviation and is quick to offer help to aviation and veterans organizations.

Before he was 20, Frank Stoltz finished sixth grade and welding school, earned a GED, and worked in a Seattle shipyard. When he was barely 20, he was drafted into the U. S. Army Air Corps, soloed in a Boeing Stearman biplane, then spent his time as top-gunner and back-up pilot in a B-24 over Germany. In 1944, his bomber was shot down and he spent the rest of WWII in a German prisoner-of-war camp.

The son of German immigrants, Frank's fluent German made him useful to guards and on



(Photo Credit: Larry Mayer, Billings Gazette) A telegraph informed Frank Stoltz's mother of him missing-in-action status. Stoltz was captured and spent the rest of the war in a German prisoner of war camp after being shot down.

the long march home. The Russian army forced-marched the entire contingent of prisoners across Poland and Germany in a death march through bitter winter weather. Frank barely survived, reached the U.S. lines a few days after the ceasefire, and came home aboard a hospital ship.

Among Frank's many military honors is the French *Legion of Honor* which was presented by representatives from the French Embassy in San Francisco who traveled with former Governor Schweitzer to Miles City to present France's oldest and highest honor.

After the war, Frank apprenticed in an auto-body shop and later founded Frank's Body Shop which he and his son operate today. Frank was inducted into the *Montana Tow Truck Hall of Fame* in 2008 and is a member of the *Towman 500 Club*, an organization for the first 500 towers in the United States.



(Photo Credit: [www.consulfrance-sanfrancisco.org](http://www.consulfrance-sanfrancisco.org)) Presentation of the French Legion of Honor by the Consul General of France for San Francisco (left) to Frank Stoltz (center) and with former (2005-2013) Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer (right).



(Photo Credit: Frank Stoltz) Frank Stoltz in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the early 1940's.

Frank began flying again in the 1960's and operated a Bellanca dealership with a four-state territory. He and his friend, Dale Benti, frequently flew to the factory in Alexandria MN for an annual inspection on Frank's Super Viking and to ferry back aircraft for sale. Frank and Dale also flew throughout the Northwest to buy cars for Frank's Body Shop.

Frank currently owns and flies a Bellanca Super Viking, is very active in aviation organizations, and is a strong supporter of the activities of the Montana Aeronautics Division's *Montana Aviation Conference*.

*Congratulations Frank!*

**See page 6 for additional Master recognitions...**

# Administrator's Column

**Drone Rule Takes Effect:** The first comprehensive rule governing drones has taken effect. More than 3,000 people have signed up to take the aviation knowledge test on the first day of its offering to certify themselves as drone pilots. The person must have a remote pilot certificate with a small UAS rating or be directly supervised by someone with a certificate. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will also conduct a background check of all remote pilot applications prior to a certificate being issued. And more than 20,000 commercial operators have registered to begin flying, anticipating successful passage of those tests. The rule applies to drones weighing up to 55 pounds and will replace the special permission that FAA granted in recent years to over 5,500 applicants for commercial use. The basic rule allows pilots who pass the test to fly up to 400 feet during daylight hours provided they keep the aircraft within line of sight and away from other aircraft. Hobbyists have always been allowed to fly under similar guidelines, but commercial pilots have had to file cumbersome applications for special permission — until now. The FAA can issue waivers for night flight and other than line of sight flight if the applicant demonstrates how they will reduce risks. Click [here](#) to watch a short video about the knowledge test.

**New tower lighting requirements:** The FAA Extension, Safety and Security Act expanded the number of radio towers that will need to be lit at night. The FAA will start drafting rules that will require most towers between 50 and 200 feet and located in rural areas to be lit at night. The law also requires towers be painted with alternating color bands to help pilots see the masts. Once the new FAA rules are adopted, any new tower will also be required to fulfill the mandate and broadcasters will have one year to bring existing towers into compliance. A database of the height and location of each tower that falls under the new rules will also be created to help pilots research where the towers are located. The lighting requirements cover antennas that are in areas designated as “undeveloped”—meaning an area where low-flying aircraft are operated on a routine basis, such as a forest, pasture or range. The towers that will be exempt from the new requirements are those used by electric companies to support distribution lines, large wind-powered electrical generators and government-owned streetlights. Also, any tower that is adjacent to a house, barn, electric utility station or farmstead would be exempt. This is welcome news for our aerial applicators.

**Bert Mooney Breaks Ground:** Construction is underway on the new terminal at Butte's Airport. A groundbreaking celebration that included national, state and local officials took place as the sun glistened and Our Lady of the Rockies looked down. Airport Authority Board Chair Dave Holman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided opening remarks, including the history of the airport. U.S. Senator Jon Tester spoke of the import role that air transportation plays to job creation and overall to Montana's economy. Other speakers included: U.S. Department of Agriculture Acting Deputy Secretary Michael Scuse and State Director John Walsh; representatives from Senator Steve Daines' and Congressman Ryan Zinke's offices and Chief Executive Matt Vincent. The event was attended by many airport authority members, employees, consultants, tenants, business leaders and partners and the general public. The current terminal was built in 1961. The new terminal will house 27,000 square feet on the main floor to include lobby and airline ticketing areas, administration offices and conference space, TSA passenger screening area, bar and concession area, baggage carousel, rental car space, and restrooms. Additional space on the lower level for baggage screening and handling equipment will be available with completion expected in 14-16 months. The project is being funded by the Airport Authority, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Butte-Silver Bow Hard Rock Mine Trust and the USDA Rural and Community Development program. Congratulations!  
(See photo on page 7.)



**Montana and the Sky**  
Department of Transportation

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**Follow MDT on social media!**



# Calendar of Events

**September 9-11, 2016** – Search Pilot Clinic in Helena, MT. Learn the skills necessary to be an effective volunteer search pilot and observer and serve the Montana aviation community in the air search and rescue system. The selected 24 pilots will each receive 3 hours of dual instruction flying practice search patterns in Cessna 182's over mountainous terrain. Ground school and field exercises will cover wilderness air crash survival, signaling, shelter, fire craft, mountain flying weather, search patterns, observer training and more. Cost is \$140 for pilots, \$70 for non-pilots. For more information, contact Harold Dramstad at (406) 444-9568 or [hdramstad@mt.gov](mailto:hdramstad@mt.gov).

**September 10, 2016** – The General Aviation Barbeque in Missoula, MT – Located at the “Runway 25” condominium hangars just northeast of Northstar/Neptune Aviation. Beginning at 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM come view fine GA aircrafts (experimental/factory built), skydivers, a display by the Museum of Mountain Flying, and the Missoula Rods and Customs Car Club will be displaying their finest restored cars. The airport's Director and Deputy conspire to create the best burgers and brats served at no charge to attendees! For further information, call Gary Matson at (406) 370-6584 or email [gjmatson@montana.com](mailto:gjmatson@montana.com).

**September 10, 2016** – Columbus Fly-In Breakfast – Will begin at 8:00 AM and will go into the afternoon. Bring the kids to watch pilot games like flour bombing and more! For further information, contact Hardin Graham at (406) 780-0034.

**September 10, 2016** – EAA Chapter 1122 Fly-In Breakfast in Polson, MT. Will begin at 8:00 AM and will go until 11:00 AM. For further information, contact Joe Kuberka at (719) 393-5550.

**September 10, 2016** – EAA Chapter 344 Young Eagles Rally & Pancake Breakfast will be held at the MDT Aeronautics ramp, 2630 Airport Road in Helena. Children ages 8 to 17 may register for free airplane rides by volunteer EAA pilots and families are welcome to enjoy a free pancake breakfast. Flights will begin at 9:00 AM and go until 11:00 AM. Young Eagles must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. EAA pilots who wish to volunteer to fly Young Eagles may contact Lance Seaman at 406-442-8459.

**September 15, 2016** – Lindbergh Hangar Dedication in Butte, MT. Beginning at 5:30 PM, there will be a dedication ceremony at the hangar on 5 mile road. The hangar has been restored in memory of Dave Gates and Dick Johnson, both of whom were pillars of the Butte piloting community and both tragically died in separate aircraft incidents. Built in 1921, the hangar was the first FBO on the Butte airport. Charles Lindbergh and his aircraft, Spirit of Saint Louis, spent 5 nights in the hangar in September of 1928. Refreshments and food will be served along with live music by Pat Acey. For more information, please contact Rick Griffith at [rickg@butteairport.com](mailto:rickg@butteairport.com).

**September 24-25, 2016** – Sidney-Richland Airport presents the Wings of Freedom IV Air Show. Featuring the Canadian Snow Birds for one of just ten performances in the US this year! Admission will be \$15 for adults, \$10 for youngsters ages 7–17, and ages 6 or under are free. Shows begin at 1:00 PM both Saturday and Sunday with special guest announcer, Danny “Hollywood” Clisham and Air Boss, Ralph Royce. If you enjoy air shows, this will be one you won't want to miss! For more information, call Walt McNutt at (406) 489-4966.

**ATTENTION!**

## MSO Taxiway Closure Information

Please be advised that the Missoula International Airport (MSO) will have a limited taxiway closure during September 19th - September 25th for construction.

Due to the taxiway closure, larger aircraft may have an occasional need to back-taxi on runway 11/29. Pilots are advised to check notams and be alert for unexpected air traffic controller clearances. A little disruption of normal operations is to be expected.

## Lincoln Airport (S69) Open House and BBQ

For the last 13 years, Lincoln resident and pilot Jerry Cain has hosted an annual fly-in BBQ / potluck at his Lincoln Airport hangar for Montana and out-of-state pilots to enjoy. The Lincoln Airport is owned and operated by the Aeronautics Division so this year, the MDT Aeronautics Division teamed up with Jerry to incorporate a community open house which took place on July 23.

Jerry, along with some talented help, served up some tasty burgers and hot dogs to compliment a smorgasbord of potluck dishes that rounded out a fantastic meal. It's estimated over 100 members of the community came out to the airport to enjoy the pleasant weather, free food, and to learn a little more about the businesses and services the airport supports. Throughout the day, about a dozen aircraft made their way to the Lincoln Airport to partake in the event. The Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department, the Lincoln Volunteer Ambulance, Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's office, and the Lincoln Maintenance Section of the Montana Department of Transportation were on hand to answer questions and show the community some of their equipment. The friendly crews of Reach Air Medical Services brought their Helena based Pilatus PC-12 and Agusta A109E to provide some insight into the world of emergency medical transport.

Thanks to the public, businesses, and public service agencies that support the Lincoln Airport and surrounding community. A special thanks goes out to Jerry, his wife Liz, and all the Lincoln area pilots that were so generous to open their hangars and display their aircraft for the public.





## Montana Scholarship Recipient Completes First Solo Ride

Montana is very fortunate to have many generous individuals and organizations that believe in promoting aviation by offering monetary assistance to qualified persons. The MDT Aeronautics Division assists in administering some of these scholarships and encourages participation. The scholarships are offered to Montanans to help defray costs of education (i.e., flight instruction, A&P, etc.) and are presented during the Montana Aviation Conference each year.

Brendyn Hewitt, a 16 year old student at Great Falls High, was the recipient of the Aviation Organizations of Montana (AOM) Flight Training Scholarship in 2015. Brendyn used his scholarship towards flight training at Holman Aviation based in Great Falls and completed his first solo on July 22, 2016 in a Piper Cherokee. His instructors were Pete Dascoulias and Vince Bakke of Holman Aviation.

To learn more about the Montana aviation scholarship program, please contact the MDT Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506 or visit our website at: [www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml).

## 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](mailto:hdramstad@mt.gov).

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.

## 2017 Montana Aeronautical Chart

**Now  
Requesting  
Photos**

**Must be High  
Resolution Photos**

**Contact  
Wade Cebulski at**

(406) 444-9581 or  
[wcebulski@mt.gov](mailto:wcebulski@mt.gov)

**\*\*Please be advised that photos  
containing children 18 years or  
younger must have signed consent  
from a parent or guardian before  
being accepted\*\***

MONTANA  
**MDT**  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# Master Instructor Jeanne MacPherson



Master Instructors LLC takes great pride in announcing a significant aviation accomplishment on the part of Jeanne MacPherson, the 1st officer on the Montana governor's aircraft and a resident Helena, Montana.

Recently, Jeanne was granted the title of Master Instructor Emeritus (MIE / MCFI-E) by Master Instructors LLC, the international accrediting authority for the Master Instructor designation as well as the FAA-approved "Master Instructor Continuing Education Program." She first earned this national professional accreditation in 2006, has held it continuously since then, and is one of only 25 worldwide to earn the credential six (6) times.

To help put these achievements in their proper perspective, there are approximately 101,000 CFIs in the United States. Fewer than 800 aviation educators worldwide have achieved one or more of the Master accreditations thus far. Twenty-two (22) of the last National Flight Instructors of the Year, National FAASTeam Representatives of the Year, or National AMTs of the Year were Masters (see: <http://www.GeneralAviationAwards.org/>) while Jeanne is one of only 8 Montana aviation educators to earn one or more of these prestigious "Master" titles. Additionally, she is one of 41 worldwide to be granted EMERITUS status.

In the words of former FAA Administrator Marion Blakey, "The Master Instructor accreditation singles out the best that the right seat has to offer."

Emeritus status is an honorary title that may be conferred upon an individual Masters in recognition of her/his years of dedication and commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community. Since the inception of the Master Instructor program almost twenty years ago, hundreds of professional aviation educators have earned initial Master accreditation followed by biennial renewals. Many of those veteran Masters are now cutting back or retiring altogether from active aviation education.

The Master Instructor designation is a national accreditation recognized by the FAA. Candidates must demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community, and must pass a rigorous evaluation by a peer Board of Review. The process parallels the continuing education regimen used by other professionals to enhance their knowledge base while increasing their professionalism. Designees are recognized as outstanding aviation educators for not only their excellence in teaching, but for their engagement in the continuous process of learning -- both their own, and their students'.

**Now Online!**



## Resale Program

The MDT Aeronautics Division's Resale Program has

***gone online!***

You can now purchase windsocks, runway lamps, PAPI lamps and much more!  
Visit our website at: <http://app.mt.gov/aeronautics/resale>  
and start ordering today.  
Orders can also be made by calling (406) 444-2506.



# New Bert Mooney Airport Officially Breaks Ground



Equipped with gold shovels, Senator Jon Tester (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) leads the group of Bert Mooney Airport staff and officials in the official ground-breaking – “let the work begin!”

## MDT Roadway Weather Cameras Valuable Aviation Resource

The Montana Department of Transportation currently has more than 70 road weather information systems (RWIS) across Montana that may be accessed online from the MDT website: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/weather/rwis.shtml>.

Many of the RWIS sites also provide camera images that provide near real time information on sky conditions that pilots may find useful for flight planning. The FAA’s Alaska weather camera program became fully operational in June 2015, providing pilots with timely, accurate weather information from airports across Alaska. The Alaska weather cameras may be viewed at [Avcams.faa.gov](http://Avcams.faa.gov).

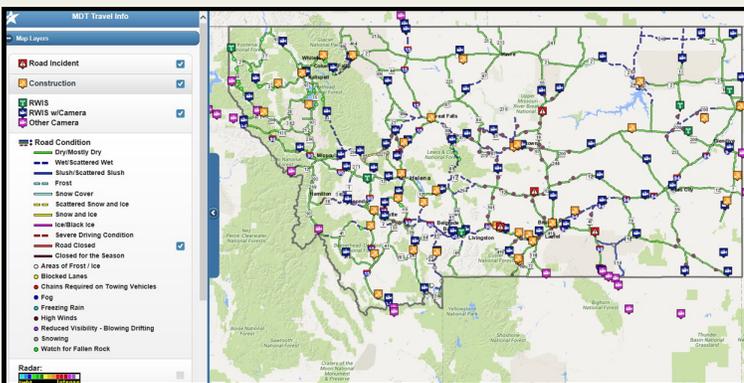


This image was taken by the MDT roadway weather camera located at Judith Gap US-191 on March 31, 2016 at 9:03 a.m.

Installation of remote weather cameras was among the safety enhancements recommended in 2014 by the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee, as a measure to help reduce loss of control accidents.

MDT’s Travel Information Map can be located at <http://roadreport.mdt.mt.gov/travinfomobile/>

Or download the mobile app – *MDT Travel Info*.



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](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero) for more information.

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