

# Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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## SCOTT “STUMP” SMITH Keynote Speaker at Aviation Conference Kickoff Luncheon February 27, 2020



L to R: Justin Smith, Scott “Stump” Smith, Missy Martin  
Photo Credit: Scott Smith

Scott “Stump” Smith was born in Kansas City, MO in 1971. Scott’s father was a Special Investigator for the United States Customs Service and was re-assigned to Great Falls shortly after Scott was born. Scott’s father was transferred several more times, ultimately moving back to Montana for good and settling in Cascade when Scott was in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. While a senior at Cascade High, Scott enlisted in the Montana Air National Guard (MANG) and attended Basic Military Training shortly after graduating high school in 1990. Scott served as a crew chief on F-16As and enrolled in the Sociology program at MSU. Throughout this time, Scott had been flying in the J3 Cub his father has owned since the early 1960s, and he earned his private pilot’s license in the 1990s. Following college graduation, Scott made the big move to Central Florida where he attended Comair Aviation Academy and earned his Instrument, Commercial, Multi-Engine, CFI, CFII, and MEI ratings.

After graduating from Comair, Scott moved back to Montana and was selected to attend Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) for the MANG to learn and fly the F-16A. Scott attended UPT at the prestigious Euro NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training located in Wichita Falls, TX. After graduating from UPT and checking out in the F-16A, Stump was hired to a full-time position in the MANG. Over his career, Stump has served as the Chief of Scheduling, Chief of Weapon and Tactics, Chief of Safety, Operations Group Director of Operations, Air Expeditionary Squadron Commander, and is currently the State A-3 (State Director of Operations). Stump has flown the T-37, T-38, F-16A/B/C/D, F-15C/D, and the C-130H1/2/3. His major deployments include Operation Southern Watch and multiple deployments to Iraq and Syria with Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Inherent Resolve. In 2016, Stump switched directions, retaining a part-time position in the MANG and accepting a position as a First Officer with United Airlines flying the Boeing 757 and 767 based out of Denver, CO.

Stump has continued his love of aviation by purchasing a 2000 A1-B Husky with his girlfriend Missy, also a C-130 pilot with the MANG and a Butte native. The two enjoy backcountry flying and exploring all the incredible remote airports that Montana and Idaho have to offer. Stump has maintained his CFI ratings for over 22 years and loves to live the aviation life. With deep roots in Part 91, Part 121, and military flying there are not many days that he doesn’t find himself in the air in one capacity or another.

**REGISTER NOW**

## **Aircraft Registration Deadline March 1, 2020**

Montana does not have any taxes for aircraft but does assess an annual registration fee in lieu of tax for annual aircraft registration. The fees are set by the Legislature and are determined according to the type and age of the aircraft. Aircraft customarily kept in Montana must be registered every year with the Montana Aeronautics Division on or before March 1<sup>st</sup> every year and within 30 days of purchase. Aircraft renewal invoices are sent the first week of December. A penalty for late registrations must be assessed in the amount of five times the registration fee if payment isn't received on time.

Montana is also required to register all pilots in the state; the fee is \$10. Included is an annual Montana Airport Directory, subscription to *Montana and the Sky* newsletter and pilot registration card. Registered pilot information is collected only to aid in search and rescue cases as it can help us locate and contact you sooner during an emergency. Your information is not shared or distributed outside of our office for any purpose other than a Search and Rescue emergency.

Online aircraft and pilot registration services are available at:  
<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation>. Vendor fees apply.

**PLEASE POSTMARK OR TIMESTAMP YOUR REGISTRATION PAYMENTS ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> FOR A RENEWAL, OR BEFORE 30 DAYS AFTER A NEW AIRCRAFT PURCHASE, TO AVOID THE PENALTY.**

For other questions, please contact the Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506.



Tim Conway, Administrator

**Montana and the Sky**  
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## **36<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Aviation Conference**

### **Pilots to receive discount for MT Aviation Conference!**

Please visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/conference.shtml> to register online.

#### **Registration Rates**

- \$85 through January 31, 2020
- \$100 February 1, 2020 and after
- \$10 high school & college students (discounts do not apply)

#### **Pilots currently registered with the Montana Aeronautics Division**

- 50% discount (a savings of \$42.50) on conference registration fee through January 31, 2020.
- 25% discount (a savings of \$25) on conference registration fee from February 1, 2020 through February 23, 2020.

#### **Pilots not registered with the Division, and non-pilots**

- \$15 off conference registration through January 31, 2020.

Conference registrations will be accepted at the door at full price of \$100; no discounts will be available. Online registration closes on February 23, 2020. Discounted registration for MT registered pilots is made possible through increased funding from House Bill 661.

# Montana Teachers Learn Aviation Theory to Apply in Their Classrooms

Eighteen teachers from across Montana gathered in Helena during October for a workshop sponsored by the MDT Aeronautics Division. The Division partnered with the Montana Learning Center (MLC) at Canyon Ferry Lake to deliver the program. Teachers received instruction from Dr. Walter Woolbaugh of MSU, Ryan Hannahoe, Executive Director of the Learning Center, and Montana Aeronautics staff. The lessons consisted of aeronautics theory and principle-based demonstrations and experiments they could easily and affordably reproduce in the classroom for students. These ideas and experiments are designed to excite students about aviation while learning science principles that apply to everyday life with an aviation twist. This program was possible through increased funding from House Bill 661.

The goal of the workshop is for teachers to take their newfound passion for aviation and transfer that back to their students in their classrooms. The first day of the workshop kicked off with some exciting activities for the teachers to get the aviation bug. Introductory flights were given to the teachers along with tours of the Montana Air National Guard, Montana Medical Transport (an air ambulance operator), Boeing 727 flight deck and the Helena Air Traffic Control Tower.

*All pictures include teachers from around the state attending*



*the Teacher Workshop with tour guides from the Montana Air National Guard, Montana Medical Transport, Montana Learning Center and Aeronautics Staff.*

*Photo Credits: MDT Aeronautics and MLC staff*

# Bill Stebbins Receives Wright Brothers “Master Pilot” Award

Contributed by Craig Hostetler



Janette Stebbins, Bill Stebbins, and Jeff Vercoe  
Photo Credit: Craig Hostetler

Bill Stebbins began his flying career in June of 1955 in primary fixed-wing training while serving in the US Army at Gary AFB, San Marcos TX. His first solo was in an L-21 (based on the Piper PA-18 Super Cub) after 15 hours of training. He then underwent advanced fixed-wing training lasting 36 weeks followed by an additional 14 weeks of helicopter training at the Army Aviation Center in Fort Rucker, AL. His first helicopter solo was in a Bell H-13 (based on the Bell 47G).

Bill was then assigned to the 9<sup>th</sup> Aviation Company in Fort Carson, CO where his primary role was pilot. Other duties including maintenance officer on both the H-13 and H-19 helicopters. While serving in the Army, he accumulated 1,300 hours with 600 fixed wing hours flying both the Cessna L-19 “Bird Dog” and the deHavilland L-20 “Beaver,” and 700 rotary wing hours between the Bell H-13 and the Sikorsky H-19. Bill was honorably discharged from the Army July 5, 1958, as a First Lieutenant.

Bill went on to receive his Civil Aeronautics Administration commercial pilot certificate in both fixed and rotary wing on June 23, 1958. Certificate number 1415900.

Bill moved to Glendive, MT in 1959 where he began working for Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) as a pilot/engineer. During his time with MDU, Bill convinced management of the need for an airplane for use in their ever-expanding natural gas transmission system covering MT, WY, ND and SD.

Bill spent the next 14 years flying a variety of different single

engine aircraft in support of MDU’s mission and in other flying pursuits. On January 2, 1973, he completed his instrument ticket and his multi-engine rating the following year.

Understanding the efficiency of the helicopter, Bill convinced MDU to utilize one to provide cathodic protection to the vast array of pipelines in their system. For the next 30 years, twice yearly, Bill flew the 3200 plus miles of pipeline making as many as 4 landings per mile as part of a two-man corrosion protection team.

In 1993, Bill retired from MDU to fly for Hawkins & Powers Aviation in Rapid City, SD. During his time with them, Bill flew a variety of different missions including firefighting, wildlife surveys, game counts, charter work, film work/photography, and pipeline projects, along with other various jobs throughout the area. Bill utilized his flying skills in a humanitarian capacity in numerous search and rescue operations in both fixed and rotary wing aircraft. The most notable rescue was helicoptering in a load of food to a stranded youth group in Makoshika State Park.

Bill operated for ten years from the old Glendive Municipal Airport and was the last Glendive resident to fly from it. He also was the first to fly into the new airport. Bill has been based for the last 50 years at the Glendive airport and has served in a variety of different positions over that time, including chairman of the airport commission from 1977 to 1984. In 2015, Bill began his latest aviation position as airport’s assistant manager. Bill continues his active career flying his Cessna 172 routinely and, on occasion, helicopters as well. To date he has totaled over 13,000 flying hours with 6,200 in helicopters including approximately 14 different models and 7,000 hours in fixed wing aircraft with approximately 27 different models.

## Basic Inland Search and Rescue Course

During October the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) came to Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls to teach a two-day Search and Rescue (SAR) course. Attendees included leaders of various SAR entities from across the state, local law enforcement agencies, the Civil Air patrol, the Air Force and Air National Guard and Montana Aeronautics staff.

The course consisted of a detailed briefing on what the AFRCC does, how it operates, what it can do to aid and coordinate SAR operations across the United States, SAR theory and planning, and a full-day simulated SAR exercise.

The next SAR course provided by the AFRCC in Montana will be June 1-5, 2020, hosted in Helena. If you are a SAR coordinator or volunteer for the Aeronautics Division and are interested in attending, please contact Matt Lindberg for more information at [mlindberg@mt.gov](mailto:mlindberg@mt.gov) or (406) 444-2506.

## Montana Aeronautics Division Proposes New Administrative Rules to Capture Existing Aircraft Registration Process

The division has published an adoption notice for administrative rules encompassing the existing aircraft registration process. The rules can be found online and will be available for public comment from December 6, 2019, through 5:00 p.m. on January 3, 2020.

To read the rule notice, please visit: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/scripts/news.pl>

## Yellowstone Airport Passenger Enplanements Hit All Time High!



Photo Credit: Aeronautics Staff

Yellowstone Airport's (WYS) seasonal operations have wrapped up and the revenue passenger enplanement numbers have hit an all-time high! For the 2019 season WYS had a total of 10,695 passengers.

The combination of the newly extended air carrier season, now 5 months and one week, and the helicopter air tour operator contributed to this year's increase. Schedule air carrier enplanements increased from 8,512 (2018) to 8,972 (2019) and air tour charter from 339 (2018) to 1,725 (2019) surpassing Butte, MT (BTM) as the 6<sup>th</sup> busiest airport in Montana for the months of June, July, and August for the first time.

SkyWest Airlines is committed to continue the extended season in 2020, and Yellowstone Helicopters is planning on returning with their air tour business as well.

## WANTED: Your Montana Aviation News

Do you have exciting aviation news from Montana to share? Did you know you can send it to the Aeronautics Division to publish in the *Montana and the Sky* newsletter? We love to hear about and share your Montana Aviation news, photos and stories. Please send contributions to [mdtaerosafetied@mt.gov](mailto:mdtaerosafetied@mt.gov).

# Montana's Largest Private Aircraft Hangar Set to Open in Great Falls

Article and photo by: *AbcFoxMontana*



Photo Credit: *Abc Fox Montana*

Great Falls is now the one and only city in the Treasure State to operate the largest private aircraft hangar; a project that has been in the works for 5 years now.

The new hangar will officially be open for business in about a month. It is owned and operated by Eagle Jet Solutions, a company that buys, sells, and provides storage for planes.

The new aircraft hangar is large enough to hold 2 Boeing 737s, which equals out to roughly 234 feet in length.

This new project not only benefits the Great Falls International Airport, but the entire city as well. "As folks with means come to enjoy our national parks, our public lands and their private ranches and those types of things, having a facility like this attracts that traffic through our community and so people get to see our community that may not otherwise get to see it—hopefully over time they invest in it," explains John Faulkner, the Great Falls International Airport Director.

The new hangar will also be used to house planes during storms in order to help with efficiency and avoid damages.

The 20-acre aviation park still has several portions of land open for new developments, and the Great Falls Airport says they have some parties interested in possibly adding more developments in the coming years.

# GAMA Publishes 2019 Second Quarter Aircraft Shipment Data

## First Half Aircraft Shipments and Billings Comparison

Aircraft Type	2018	2019	Change
Piston Airplanes	492	567	+15.2%
Turboprops	260	231	-11.2%
Business Jets	281	316	+12.5%
Total Airplanes *	1,033	1,114	+7.8%
Total Airplane Billings*	8.0B	9.0B	+12.9%
Piston Rotorcraft	149	110	-26.2%
Turbine Rotorcraft	337	299	-11.3%
Total Rotorcraft	486	409	-15.8%
Total Rotorcraft Billings	1.7B	1.5B	-13.1%

The General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) has published a mid-year industry update with the release of preliminary second quarter 2019 aircraft shipment and billings data. Piston and business jet deliveries increased through the first six months of 2019 compared to the same time period in 2018, while turboprop airplane and rotorcraft shipments were lower.

The piston market continued to lead the increase in deliveries at 567 units, up 15.2% from the same period in 2018. Business jet shipments increased by 12.5% in the first six months of 2019 to 316 airplanes delivered. Turboprop airplanes, however, declined in deliveries from 260 to 231 units from the same reporting companies. The value of airplane deliveries through the first six months of 2019 was \$9.0 billion, an increase of approximately 12.9%.

Rotorcraft deliveries slowed in the first six months of 2019. Piston rotorcraft shipments declined from 149 to 110 units. The industry delivered 299 turbine rotorcraft, a reduction by 11.3% compared to 2018. The value of rotorcraft shipments was \$1.5 billion, a decline of approximately 13.1%.



Photo Credit: *Plane and Pilot*

# Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC)

The MDT Aeronautics Division is hosting Aviation Seminars for the 2020 FIRC February 7th and 8th at the Wingate by Wyndham 2007 North Oakes in Helena. This two-day FAA-approved course will run from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Friday and from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. This course meets FAA renewal requirements for certified flight instructors and includes IACRA renewal.

Registration can be completed online at [https://www.aviationseminars.com/registration-form/?type=firc&course\\_id=2020177](https://www.aviationseminars.com/registration-form/?type=firc&course_id=2020177). Tuition for Montana Aeronautics Registered Pilots: \$170.00 Promo-code required, Non-Montana Aeronautics Registered Pilots: \$195.00.

Discounted registration for Montana Aeronautics registered pilots has been made possible through increased funding from House Bill 661. Montana registered pilots please contact Aeronautics at [mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov](mailto:mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov) or call (406) 444-2506 to get your promo-code and save \$25.00 off the registration fee.

Not a MDT Aeronautics Division registered pilot? Register now with the Division for \$10.00 per year and save \$25.00 off the FIRC registration. You will receive a pilot registration card, Montana Airport Directory and newsletter. Visit <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/regpilot.shtml> for online pilot registration, vendor fees apply.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Wingate Hotel at prevailing government rate plus tax. Reserve your room by calling (406) 558-4490 and reference rooming block MDT-Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC).

For more information contact [Matt Lindberg](mailto:Matt.Lindberg@mt.gov) or call [406-444-2506](tel:406-444-2506).



## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

~ From MDT Aeronautics Staff ~

*Effie Benoit, Wade Cebulski, Tim Conway, Bron Hansen, Jeff Kadlec,  
Staci Leitgeb, Matt Lindberg, Derrick Olheiser, Karen Speeg & Patricia Troien*



## Calendar of Events

**January 15-16, 2020 — Aeronautics Board Meeting.** For further information contact (406) 444-2506.

**January 19-21, 2020 — Association of Montana Aerial Applicators (AMAA) 2020 Convention and Trade Show.** Attend the AMAA trade show at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls, Montana, for educational opportunities, networking with peers, visiting with new vendors and suppliers, and having FUN! Preregister by email at [eccampbell@yahoo.com](mailto:eccampbell@yahoo.com). For more information contact Colleen Campbell at (406) 781-6461.

**January 24-26, 2020 — Winter Survival Clinic at the Seeley Lake Airport.** Learn winter survival skills. For further information, contact Matt Lindberg at (406) 444-9568 or [mlindberg@mt.gov](mailto:mlindberg@mt.gov). Clinic is currently full. We are accepting names for a waiting list.

**February 7-8, 2020 – Flight Instructor Renewal Course (FIRC).** The MDT Aeronautics Division will hold the two-day, FAA-approved course that meets the FAA's renewal requirements for Certified Flight Instructors (CFI). For more information contact Matt Lindberg at (406) 444-9568 or email [mlindberg@mt.gov](mailto:mlindberg@mt.gov).

**February 27-29, 2020 — The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Aviation Conference.** For conference information and to register visit: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/conference.shtml>. For more information, contact Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506 or email [MDTAConf@mt.gov](mailto:MDTAConf@mt.gov).

**February 28-29, 2020 — Aircraft Mechanic Refresher and Inspection Authorization Seminar.** Held in conjunction with the Montana Aviation Conference. For conference information and to register visit: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/conference.shtml>. For more information, contact Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506 or email [MDTAConf@mt.gov](mailto:MDTAConf@mt.gov).

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**VISION ZERO**

zero deaths · zero serious injuries

MONTANA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION

**December 2019**

5403

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PO Box 200507  
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## **Vision Zero: A Goal for Everyone**

In 2018, there were 181 fatalities on Montana roads.

What does that mean? 181 parents, children, grandparents, friends, siblings, spouses, and other loved ones had lives that were cut short. It also means countless tears and shattered lives for 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 2018 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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