

# Mission Aviation Training Academy

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MATA.USA@GMAIL.COM

FEBRUARY 2013

## THREE PILOTS GET INSTRUMENT RATING

Most of our training this fall and into the winter was three students working to earn an Instrument Rating, which is required for a pilot to fly in clouds and poor visibility where there is no visual contact with the ground, and the aircraft is controlled solely by reference to the instruments. Congratulations to Ian Rojas, who earned his rating in Decem-



Ian shakes examiner Neal Karman's hand

ber, and to Brandon Rodstol and Justin Reeves who achieved their ratings in January! One of the FAA requirements for this rating is 40 hours of instrument flight time. The FAA allows pilots to log this time by flying in actual



Brandon, happy to add Instrument Rating to his license

weather conditions with another pilot who already holds the rating, or by simulating weather conditions with a

vision-limiting device (or "hood")



Justin congratulated by instructor Gary Elliott

which restricts the pilot's field of view to the instrument panel, while another "safety pilot" looks out for traffic. Puget Sound weather affords our students the opportunity to train in actual instrument conditions, which provides much more valuable pilot experience than simulated weather.

"WHILE THEY WERE WORSHIPING AND FASTING, THE HOLY SPIRIT SAID, 'SET APART FOR ME BARNABUS AND SAUL FOR THE WORK TO WHICH I HAVE CALLED THEM.' SO AFTER THEY HAD FASTED AND PRAYED, THEY PLACED THEIR HANDS ON THEM AND SENT THEM OFF." ACTS 13: 2-3

## WINTER A PERFECT TIME FOR MAINTENANCE...

Ian Rojas has been getting some great aircraft maintenance experience as he works alongside Dary and Gordon. Ian earned his Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) aircraft mechanic licenses from Moody Aviation in Spokane, but his job at Boeing, where he does engine installations on the new B-787 Dreamliner, doesn't involve light airplane maintenance. The experience gained working in our hangar by MATA students like Ian is a great benefit preparing them for the "technical evaluation" with sending mission aviation agencies. Recent projects have been the annual inspection of MATA's Cessna 182RG, and a Supplemental Type Certificate for our Cessna 152, which moved the battery from forward of the firewall to aft of the cabin to help a center-of-gravity and balance issue.

Winter is also when we start planning for the Summer flying activities. For 10



Gordon and Dary prepare an engine for installation

years we have been flying to Kako Retreat Center in Western Alaska to help fly adults and kids to family camp Memorial Day weekend, and then for 6 weeks of kids' Bible camps. We do not yet know if our Cessna 182 will be needed for the summer, but we do know they need some of us to come up and help fly the Retreat Center's airplanes. Please be praying for these camps that many kids might come to know the Saviour and learn to walk with Him.

## ...but not in AK



John hauling firewood for heating

John and Margaret Lewis continue to need your prayers as they serve on the Yukon River village of Marshall. Pray that the kids of the village would take advantage of the teen center that is open at the church several days per week.



kids busy at the teen center



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Training Pilots for Missions

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## Calendar of Events

Saturday night Bible study 7pm on most Saturdays (425-231-5855)

Feb 8-10 Arlington First Baptist Church Missions Conference

April 25-27 Christian Heritage Home-school conference

May 22-?? Alaska Bible camp flying

June 1 MATAthlon fundraiser

July 10-14 Arlington Fly-In

July 21-26 Aviation Summer Camp

## Director's Corner

After starting with MATA as the Director of Maintenance in 1999, I became acquainted with Pastor Paul Nash, the Home Missions Director with AFLC (Free Lutheran Church). He lives in Minneapolis near their church headquarters, and because he is a pilot he is able to use airplanes that have been donated to the AFLC to facilitate travel as he goes about the country visiting their churches. Paul was instrumental in starting MATA, along with founder Pastor Mike Crowell, encouraging Mike and helping shape the vision for MATA. Paul later did some of his flight training with Mike, and for years he has been an advisor to the MATA Board of Directors. Paul visited here last month, saw our new hangar, and flew our Cessna 182RG with Dary out to Friday Harbor to give a lift to a former MATA student, Naomi Finney

## Aviation Summer Camp

Discover missionary aviation and log time towards your pilot license.

**July 21-26 2013**

**14- to 18-year-olds**

**ONLY \$500**

- Daily flight experience!!!
- "Ground school" experience
- Cross-country flight planning
- Christian mentoring by field-experienced pilots
- Exposure to missions aviation
- Field trip to flight museum

Boyer, and her baby Micah so she could attend her dad's 80th birthday party. Paul was amazed and moved as he toured our new facility, so I asked him to write an article reflecting on MATA's development. You will find the whole article on our website, but I'm including an excerpt below.

*How is it in these days of economic stress that an aviation ministry can continue to grow and thrive? I believe there are several reasons for this:*

*1. MATA has many Christians—wonderful senior citizens and dedicated prayer warriors, that pray for MATA's leaders, finances, students, training flights, and alumni who serve the Lord out in their fields.*

*2. MATA's commitment to the Word of God—Each Saturday night a Bible study is held at the hangar where staff and students spend time in the Word*

## MATAthlon 2013

Pick up the challenge to run for missions! Get your youth group involved and compete against other local youth in our annual MATAthlon, a run, walk, or bike around Arlington's Airport Trail (5.8 miles). Your sponsorships provide support for training missionary pilots. There is a great need for pilots around the world, to fly where there are no roads, bringing the Gospel to remote people groups. Choose to be part of the team by participating in this year's MATAthlon June 1st, 9am at the new MATA hangar. See website



Dary shows Pastor Paul Nash the progress on an engine change and annual inspection as Gordon and Gary look on.

*and prayer. This has built a strong sense of family within the organization and its alumni.*

*3. The Lord continues to be faithful as He nudges people to share their resources, airplanes, and finances with MATA.*

*4. God's faithful stewards continue to support and respond to the ministry needs at MATA. They have had many friends who have given of their time and talents to this part of the Kingdom's work. One such example is a young widow, Barb, who is allowing MATA to base their operations at a reduced price in a wonderful facility*

*that they presently occupy.*

*It has been a privilege to look back over the past 15 years and see the hand of God work and move through the MATA ministry. He has provided, protected, and directed. He has allowed MATA to impact world missions. Without air support, many missionaries would be unable to continue their work in remote areas. So as our alumni serve and support these faithful missionaries all over the world, souls are brought into the Kingdom of God. This was Pastor Crowell's vision as He sought to fulfill the Lord's Great Commission of "Go ye into all the world."*