

Mission Aviation Training Academy

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MATA.USA@GMAIL.COM

SEPTEMBER 2013

July Record Month For MATA



2013 Aviation Summer Camp

July was a record-breaking month with 200 hours flown utilizing all 6 MATA aircraft, along with Scott Price's C-172 loaned for the week of Aviation Summer Camp (thank you Scott). The three C-172s allowed us to accommodate 18 campers, 14 boys and 4 girls, instead of



Luke and three of his campers.

our usual 2 planes and 12 campers. MATA student Luke Abare earned his instructor certificate just in time to be our 3rd instructor alongside Gary and Dary. Allen Koopman and Clayton Howie both took a week off work; Allen taught ground school and Clayton provided photography and video documentation for our website and campers. Dave Voetmann, 25-year MAF pilot and co-designer of the Kodiak aircraft, assisted Gary in evening devotions and missions challenge. Stacie, with assistance from Anna Finck, Elaine Bakke, Sarah Abare, and Kari



Luke filling out logbooks after a long day of flying

Brizendine ('09 camper), provided meals. Six prior summer campers have done further flight training with MATA. Tim Reed ('09) is in his final year of A&P school, holds a Commercial Pilot license, and should earn his Instructor Rating (CFI) this month. William Wing ('12) flew his initial solo on Wednesday September 4th after turning 16 on August 31st.



Allen teaching ground training.

"CALL ON ME AND I WILL ANSWER YOU AND TELL YOU GREAT AND UNSEARCHABLE THINGS YOU DO NOT KNOW."
JEREMIAH 33:3

CHECK WEBSITE FOR CHANGES...
BIBLE STUDY DATE AND TIME
WWW.MATA-USA.ORG

Dary Earns FAA Inspection Authorization



Dary A&P/IA

Dary Finck recently earned his Inspection Authorization (IA) so he can now sign off aircraft annual inspections. Although MATA has several IAs on its board (Bakke, Davis, and Crowell), this is a huge accomplishment and came

just at the right time. In June Dary led a work team at Kako Retreat Center in Alaska and performed annual inspections on their aircraft. A crack in the engine case of Kako's C-182 was discovered, so Dary removed the engine, shipped it to MATA, and is now in the process of rebuilding it. As soon as the overhaul is done we will ship it back to Alaska, then a couple of us will go to Kako, reinstall the engine, and complete the annual inspection so the plane is usable again for ministry in Western Alaska.

Any gifts to help pay for this engine

overhaul would be much appreciated, as it is expensive to get this engine airworthy again. We are grateful to have gifted mechanics and inspectors here at MATA who can perform and certify maintenance to FAA standards.



Dary pulling Kako's engine with some assistance.



P.O. Box 3655
19002 59th Dr. NE
Arlington, WA 98223

Training Pilots for Missions

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Missions Fest Seattle

Don't miss Missions Fest Seattle October 18th & 19th at Eastside Four-square Church and Northshore Baptist Church. Josh McDowell, evangelist, apologist, and Operation CareLift founder, and Hon. Linda Smith, Shared Hope International (human trafficking) founder, will be this year's keynote speakers. Gary Elliott will be speaking Saturday at 11 a.m. in one of the many seminars offered that day. You can also visit lots of mission organization display booths, so you want to be there!

<http://missionsfestseattle.org>

New Instructors

God has blessed MATA with several part-time instructors as more students begin flight training. These men are holding full-time jobs and volunteering on their off hours to train MATA students. Jun Lee worked this summer with William Wing, a 2012 summer camper who returned for flight training. Chad Dimon, a MATA graduate and MAF candidate, flies with Tony Copley, who is only available to train on Saturdays due to his work schedule. Kevin Andringa continues to fly with Gene Ketcham as he works toward his Commercial Certificate.



William and Jun



Chad Dimon

Special Event

NTM missionary pilot Martin Burnham and his wife Gracia were held hostage for 376 days by the militant Muslim group Abu Sayyaf. Gracia will be speaking September 28th at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Mount Vernon for the regional Voice of The Martyrs Conference. Gracia will demonstrate how joy has little to do with our circumstances, but has everything to do with our attitude. Martin and Gracia served alongside Gary and Stacie Elliott in the Philippines. Register for free by calling 877-337-0302.

Director's Corner



This month of September for many is the month of new beginnings: new school, new grade, or even attending school for the first time. Here at MATA we have new students coming and current students seeking a new rating or license. It's a lot of hard work. Not only do you have to pass a written exam for each license

or rating, you also need to do well on an oral exam, and of course pass the flight test. Every person is different. Some do better in one phase than the other, just like you would. It can be discouraging when it seems like no matter how hard you study, it all seems so elusive.

When you are driving a car there are not too many rules to remember. Mostly it's the speed limit. And you are only concerned about traveling on the road. The airplane not so. On the ground or water (if the plane is on floats) there are quite a lot of things you need to know and do well. Then when you get up in the air many more things to know, as there are various airspace classifications and depending on what class it is, the rules vary. Then when you

get ready to return to land on a hard surface, grass runway, or on the water, you need to have more skills and knowledge.

So thank you for praying for our students and the MATA staff. Also, a big thank you for your financial gifts to us. These help our students get all this training at a reasonable cost, so they can be ready to apply to a mission agency when they have the qualifications, instead of spending years paying off a huge debt.

In August a study-tour took me to Juneau and Sitka, followed by a 2-day visit to Ketchikan and Prince of Wales Island. As you travel in Alaska you realize how important and critical airplanes are in just getting around efficiently and safely. We are receiving inquiries from Canada

and countries overseas regarding flight training. For foreign students to come we need to add another dimension to our program. We are looking at adding a Part 141 training program as well as continuing the Part 61 program, which is what we have been from the beginning. For this to happen, we need another person to help with the FAA, State Department, and Homeland Security paperwork and other requirements. If we do not have to hire this additional help, we could maintain our low cost for flight training and thus see our graduates get to the mission field in a timely manner. Please pray for at least one more office volunteer to join us!

God bless you,
Gordon Bakke
Executive Director