

# Mission Aviation Training Academy

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AUGUST 2014

## AVIATION SUMMER CAMP 2014

“THE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE HEARD FROM ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY WITNESSES, THESE ENTRUST TO FAITHFUL MEN WHO WILL TEACH OTHERS ALSO.” 1TIMOTHY 2:2

Sunday July 20th through Friday the 25th the MATA hangar was buzzing with the sound of 3 Cessna 172s, 18 campers, and 3 flight instructors to fly with them. MATA staff and volunteers cooked, kept the planes flying, taught the Bible



lessons and led devotions, and presented mission aviation. Mid-week we had some hard rain and clouds, but still even-

ry camper was able to fly every day, with some flights even after supper. Each camper received approximately 4

hours of flight instruction and an additional 8 hours riding in the back seat observing.

Do we expect all eighteen to become missionary pilots? No, perhaps a few might take some flight training and 2 or 3 become

professional pilots serving the Lord, whether it be as a missionary pilot or flying for an airline or other commercial operator.

## VOLUNTEERS MAKE CAMP POSSIBLE

Flight camp this year took on a whole new look as several MATA graduates spent a week away from family and vacation time from work to serve as camp flight instructors. April, Luke, and



Dary, April, Luke, Les

Les travelled from Soldotna, Alaska, Seattle, and Durango, Colorado respectively to allow MATA staff to continue with their daily duties. Dary and Gordon were on duty to fix maintenance problems that came up and Gary continued instructing other MATA students. Wayne Ayars was at a critical point in his flight training and was able to continue his training during camp and take his checkride on the following Monday. During the evenings Gary did the camp's devo-

tionals and mission challenge. For the past 8 years Allen Koopman has taken vacation from his job at the University of Washington Hospital to teach ground school to our campers. We appreciate the time he devotes to prepare and present these lessons.



Allen Koopman

Joe Hopkins and Christine Miller assisted campers with hands-on application of Allen's lesson on navigation and cross-country planning.

Clayton Howie works a night job, and volunteers at MATA several days a week to keep our website current and



Clayton Howie

provide technical support for our PowerPoint presentations, simulator, and videography. Visit MATA's website [www.mata-usa.org](http://www.mata-usa.org) to view his latest video and get a 3 1/2-minute glimpse of the camp experience.

Camp couldn't happen without someone cooking for all these hungry teens,

so for the past 5 years Kari Brizendine, a 2009 camper, and Anna



Anna, Kari, Christine

Finck have given their week serving alongside Stacie making delicious meals and fresh treats each day. Kari is a school teacher in Sunnyside, Washington and Anna is Dary's wife and mother of 3 1/2-year-old Kinza. These girls sacrifice time from their busy schedules to serve. All these volunteers are needed to impact the lives of these teens.

GOD DOESN'T CALL THE EQUIPPED, HE EQUIPS THOSE HE CALLS



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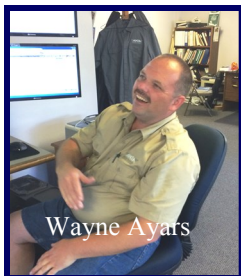
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## BUSY SPRING AND SUMMER

MATA planes have kept really busy this year, flying over 820 hours since January with an average weekly avgas bill of \$800. Since our April newsletter John Shrader, Kyle Fahey, and Matt Hamm have earned their Private Pilot licenses. Wayne Ayars passed



Wayne Ayars

his Commercial Pilot exam and earned a Multi-Engine rating all within a week of each other.



Kyle Fahey

The Shrader family left for Zambia about a month after John became a Private Pilot. Learn more about them at



John Shrader



Chad, Jamie, & Gabby Dimon

[www.teamzambia.com](http://www.teamzambia.com).

In July Chad and Jamie Dimon received their field assignment to Africa with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)! Tim Reed, another summer camper from 2009, recently passed his Airframe & Powerplant mechanic exams. Tim

caught the vision of mission aviation when he attended MATA's camp at age 17. Since '09 Tim has earned his Private, Instrument, Commercial, Certified Flight Instructor, and float plane rating, and

A&P license. Tim also has one year of Bible school finished and plans to complete another



Tim Reed

### Director's Corner



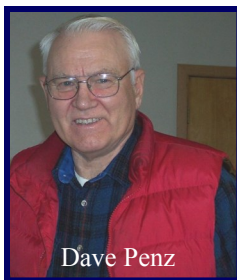
This past Sunday July 27th was the 9th anniversary of MATA's founder, Pastor Mike Crowell, going to be

with the Lord as the plane he was flying crashed and burned. Thankfully, with the Lord's help MATA has continued to train and see its pilots go to many places across the globe.

On May 11, 2014 Alaska missionary pilot Dave Penz passed away after several years of fighting cancer. He

raised his family in villages along the Kuskokwim and Yukon Rivers. While living at the village of Stony River (which runs into the Kuskokwim at that place) he built Camp Inowak at a nearby location. Through this camp many were reached for the Lord. In 1980 he began developing an old gold mine site (400 miles West of Anchorage and 6 miles North of the Yukon River) into Kako Retreat Center.

In 1988, some two years after his wife died, he married a widow of more than 30 years who had spent most of her life as a missionary in Alaska. Vera, now widowed again, plans to continue on in this ministry that has touched the lives of thou-



Dave Penz

sands of folks from the villages. In 2002 I flew my 4-place Cessna 182 to Alaska to help fly kids from their villages to camp so they could hear about Jesus, and I kept returning year after year. We continue to send a plane and pilots each summer to help with this wonderful ministry at Kako.

The MATA-THON fundraiser brought in \$8,000 to help cover avgas expenses for MATA's Cessna 182 which was used again to fly kids

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graduates Ian Rojas and Jonathan Miller left May 19th from MATA's hangar in Arlington to fly to Alaska. Jonathan was able to give Ian a checkout at Kako and some of the village airstrips before he returned home. Ian carried on and was able to help fly folks into Kako for Dave's memorial service, making 26 landings that day. A few days later Bible camps for kids began. Ian flew a total of 160 passengers and added 90 hours to his logbook. We could not have done this without your help. Thank you for all who contributed.

*Gordon Bakke*  
Executive Director