

2013 Scholarship Recipients



A Love of Aviation (ALOA) Scholarship - An anonymous donor established this scholarship of \$250 in 1997, in 2011 two more anonymous donors joined in the scholarship creating a \$750 scholarship. This year's recipient is **Jessica Williams of Lambert, MT**. Jessica dreams of becoming a Commercial Pilot and also studying Aviation Technology Management and enjoy her passion for flying in the skies! Jessica will graduate in the spring of 2013 from Lambert High School and attend the University of North Dakota.

She has recently flown 2.3 hours with the help of Barry Holzworth of Sidney Air Service and will work there part time through the end of her senior year and this summer before heading off to college. Jessica hopes to make her school and community proud by choosing the right aviation school and teaching students like her to chase their dreams. She feels there is no better feeling in this world than to seek out and live your dream.



AOM Flight Training Scholarship – AOM has established this \$500 scholarship to financially assist a student pilot in obtaining their private pilot certificate. This year's recipient is **Colter Zimmerman of Hamilton, MT**. Colter is 16 years old and has been taking flying lessons from Bitterroot Aviation since he was just 10 years old. He wants to get his private pilot certificate this year and get more flight time to work towards his tail wheel endorsement and multi-engine and complex aircraft endorsements on the Flagship Detroit DC3. He is an honor student at Corvallis High School where he also works in an independent study of aviation, for which he receives credits. He works at Bitterroot Aviation trading work for flight time. Colter feels aviation is his future and destiny. Immediately after graduation from high school he hopes to attend a reputable flight school. He appreciates any contributions towards his aviation

career and will continue to pay it forward.



Blue Goose First Generation Flight Scholarship, this \$250 scholarship administered by Joe and Kathy Kurberka is awarded to a first generation pilot to assist with flight training. This scholarship is designed to assist a person who has a love of aviation, yet had limited exposure to aviation, someone from a non-aviation background/family. This year's recipient is **Michael J. Baier of Columbia Falls, MT**. Michael's love for aviation started at a young age, sparked by a local pilot and close friend, Perry Brown. His flight training began in 2011 at Red Eagle Aviation. He obtained his private pilot's license in

September of 2011, his private helicopter license in January of 2012, and has completed most of the fixed-wing instrument rating. He currently works as a machinist at a family-owned and operated machine shop. His goal is to obtain CFII in both rotary and fixed wing; tail wheel endorsement, float plane rating, build hours through flight instruction, and some day obtain a position as a corporate or commercial pilot.



EAA Helena Chapter 344 Scholarship – The EAA Helena chapter is offering a \$500 scholarship to help defray the cost of school for a 2nd year A&P student. This year's recipient is **Alex Koch of Helena, MT**. Alex receives flight instruction from Brent Vetter of Vetter Aviation. He soloed on his 16th birthday and on May 15, 2010 passed his check ride. He is currently working towards his instrument rating and has been in Cessna 172s and occasionally a Piper Apache. He works in his families landscaping business and graduated in the 98 percentile of graduating seniors worldwide. He is enrolled at the Helena College, with a GPA of 3.8. When he graduates he will have an associate degree in applied sciences and be qualified to take the oral and practical, written tests for the Airframe and Powerplant certificates. His future goals are to transfer to Rocky Mountain College and earn a Bachelor of Science degree

in aeronautical science. He also plans to earn his tailwheel and complex endorsements. He is thankful to the many individuals and groups in the aviation community that have assisted him in achieving his aviation dreams.

2013 Scholarship Recipients, continued



Harold Hamm Scholarship – Harold and Zola Hamm were the anonymous donors that established the first \$250 A Love of Aviation (ALOA) Scholarship in 1993. With the passing of Harold on September 1, 2006, Zola decided to rename the scholarship the “Harold Hamm Scholarship” in honor of her husband of 19 years. Harold had an extremely strong passion for aviation. Together he and Zola completed two airplane projects: the restoration of a J-3 Piper Cub, and an experimental RV-6 aircraft. This year’s recipient is **Ryan Johnson of Great Falls, MT**. In addition to the Harold Hamm Scholarship Ryan was also selected for the **Theresa (Nistler) Colley Scholarship -**

Mountain AirDance Flight Training (Jeanne MacPherson and Bill Gallea) and Vetter Aviation (Brent and Rosie Vetter) offer this \$500 scholarship in memory of Theresa (Nistler) Colley who passed away from Leukemia (AML) in February, 2012. Theresa loved flying and was working toward her private pilot certificate. This scholarship is awarded to a student pilot who is working on getting their private pilot rating. Ryan joined the Army after high school and was deployed to Iraq in 2008 where he received several awards including the Army Commendation medal. During his time in the military he participated in helicopter air assaults and has learned many valuable skills that he plans to use in his aviation career. He recently graduated ground school from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. He earned a 96% on the end of his course project and graduated with a B+. He would like to further his career as a pilot and has been paying for flight lessons out of pocket because the VA and GI benefits only pay for a commercial license. Ryan is dedicated to becoming a pilot and will continue to work hard until he accomplishes his goal of becoming a commercial pilot. He has always known flying is his future.



Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Scholarship, MAAA offers two \$1,000 scholarships to help defray the costs of flight instruction. This year’s recipients are **Jeff McBirnie of Great Falls, MT and Kalen Park of Billings, MT**. Jeff’s love and passion for aviation started early at the age of 14, when his father brought home a remote control airplane for them to build and learn to fly together. After almost 20 years of flying model planes, he decided it was time to fulfill his dreams and learn to fly real airplanes. He started his private license training this last April. He currently has 64 hours of flight time with experience flying a Cessna 172 and a Piper Cherokee 140. He plans on taking his private check ride in January, 2013. His career goal is to achieve his instrument and CFI ratings by the end of this summer. Jeff is a teacher at Great Falls High School and has started an after-school Aviation Club. His goal is to make flying an affordable, fun and obtainable goal for the students. Kalen is an Aeronautical Science Major at Rocky Mountain College. He served in the United States Army from 1997-2004 before deciding to accomplish his educational goals. As a freshman, he is currently working towards his Private Pilot Certificate. He hopes to earn his Certificated Flight Instructor Certificate by his junior year. With that certification he will apply for a position as a flight instructor at Rocky



Mountain College. After graduation he plans on applying for a pilot position at Alpine Air. His ultimate goal is to help other non-traditional students like himself succeed in the aviation industry.

Montana Pilots Association Flight Training Award - This scholarship is open to a person who has a considerable interest in aviation. The \$750 scholarship is to be used for flight training. This year’s scholarship has been awarded to **Linda Hopkins of Martin City, MT**. Linda has always wanted to learn to fly and earn her private pilot’s license. She feels there is no better time than now to pursue one of her life long dreams. Linda is an elementary school teacher in Columbia Falls. She attended the MDT Aeronautics Teacher workshop in 2010 and served as an afterschool program director for three years where she brought flight simulation to that program. She was named Canyon Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2010, and has sat on the board of the Flathead Head Start and volunteered with Hospice and Literacy programs as well. Linda would like to obtain her pilot’s license and serve as a role model to her students and inspire them to know that no dream is impossible regardless of age.

2013 Scholarship Recipients, continued



Montana Pilots Association Junior Pilot Award - This recipient is chosen for outstanding interest in aviation, citizenship within their community and demonstrated academic achievement. The recipient must have soloed and be actively involved in flight training. This is a \$750 scholarship. This year's recipient is **Jonathon Ashcraft of Billings, MT**. Jonathon was born and raised in Twin Bridges, MT. He graduated as Salutatorian, and is currently a student majoring in Aeronautical Science at Rocky Mountain College. He has been enrolled in the program for three years and plans to complete his fourth on time with a professional pilot's

degree. He has already earned his private, instrument, and commercial ratings. In addition he has also received his tail wheel endorsement. He is in the process of his multi-engine rating. He has been on the Dean's list for four semesters, received high honors in one other, and has served as a member of the Aviation Student Advisory Council for two years. His current college cumulative GPA is 3.75. Jonathon received the Parrott Family Scholarship in 2010 and feels that that gift has gone a long way in furthering his career.



Morrison Aviation Appreciation Scholarship – Jeff Morrison, retired former owner of Morrison Flying Service in Helena has established this \$500 scholarship as a token of appreciation to the aviation community. This year's recipient is **Wyatt Lytton of Polson, MT**. Wyatt's love for aviation stems back to when he was born. His mom and dad took him flying all the time. He wants to receive his private pilot's license and is almost to the point of being able to solo and finish up his testing for completion of his license. He competes on the high school rodeo team and is a member of the Polson High School National Honor Society. Wyatt and his brother have started a Blue Skies Aviation Program in memory of a pilot friend who died unexpectedly and go to schools in their area and teach the

students about aviation and why planes fly, how they fly, and allow the students to think about a future that involves aviation. They also incorporate the Young Eagles program into that program. Wyatt feels the ability to be his age and have no limits through his aviation future is the fun part about living his life. He knows "the sky's the limit" for his aviation career.



Mountain Airdance Flight Training Scholarship – Jeanne MacPherson and Bill Gallea offer this \$750 scholarship to an active pilot who desires to pursue advanced training, such as tailwheel endorsement, mountain flying, aerobatics, or a higher rating. This year's recipient is **Kimberly Cordova of Billings, MT**. Kimberly is a senior at Rocky Mountain College in the Aviation Program. She is a multi-engine commercial pilot. Before she graduates this May she plans on earning her CFI. She worked two jobs in high school to earn her Private Pilot's Certificate. She is currently working two airport jobs now and although difficult at times she enjoys being at the airport and being involved. This past summer she worked as a banner tow and air tour pilot for a company in North Carolina. She has the option to go back next summer, as well as another offer from a skydive company on the same field. Her goal in

the next two years is to be bush flying in Alaska or island hopping in the Caribbean. Down the road she hopes to end up back in Montana.



NW Montana Youth Aviation Scholarship – The Flathead Hangar offers a \$750 scholarship to financially assist a student pilot with the cost of flight instruction. Student pilots 14-24 years of age from NW Montana are eligible for this scholarship. This year's winner is **Wyatt Wollenzien of Kalispell, MT**. Wyatt is 18 years old and a senior at Columbia Falls High School with a 3.6 GPA. He has wanted to be a pilot for as long as he can remember. He has flown remote control airplanes for several years and is a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. He is currently working towards his private pilot's license with Red Eagle Aviation in Kalispell. He has 42 hours in a Cessna 172. He took and passed the private pilot written exam this summer. He works at Red Eagle and has put everything he earned towards flight

lessons. He will also continue working towards his Instrument Rating after he receives his private pilot's license. He wants to fly commercially for the military someday and will pursue a college degree in aviation. He knows this will be challenging, but one way or another, he hopes to have a career in aviation.

2013 Scholarship Recipients, continued



Parrott Family Scholarship – The Parrott Family offers this \$1,000 scholarship to be used over a one-year period for pilot training programs for students enrolled in the Rocky Mountain College (RMC) aviation program. The funds may be used for tuition in the RMC aviation program, and/or flight training expenses leading to a Private, Commercial, or Flight Instructor Certificate, and may include Instrument and Multiengine simulator training, and the purchase of aviation related materials and related supplies. This year's recipient is **Austin Kiehl of Winnett, MT**. Austin started his

schooling and flight training at Rocky Mountain College this year. This first semester he earned his private pilot's license and will be starting lessons for his instrument rating in the spring semester. His family owns a Piper PA-11 that both his father and uncle fly. He has been able to spend time in that airplane and learn about his father and uncle's experiences in aviation. His goal with aviation is to become a professional in the industry. A job as an agricultural pilot fits well into his background and the way he was raised. However, he can also see himself flying for the airlines or flying the bush of Alaska. He graduated from Winnett High School as Salutatorian and received Rocky's highest scholarship, the Trustee Scholarship. He also serves on the Aviation Student Advisory Committee at Rocky.