



MISSION AVIATION TRAINING ACADEMY



425-231-5855

www.mata-usa.org

MATAUSA



Alumni Update—Furloughs and Floods

MATA alumni fly in some of the remotest places on earth. **Amos and Heidi Collins** and their family have served for 15 years with Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA) in Micronesia (Yap Island). Along with providing air transportation between the many islands for various ministry purposes, they both are quite involved with serving their local church.

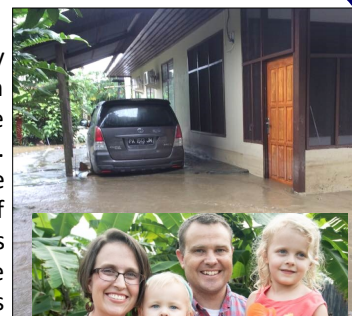


THE COLLINSES
www.pmapacific.org/
about/staff/
collins_amos.html



THE DIMONS
www.maf.org/dimon

Chad and Jamie Dimon and their family have served with MAF in the Democratic Republic of Congo for three years now. To complement Chad's aviation ministry, Jamie is an RN and helps in the local hospital and with orphans. Both the Collinse and Dimons will be on furlough this next summer/fall. **Josh and Amber Harrington** support Bible translation serving with Wycliffe in Papua, Indonesia through aviation. This past March, the Harringtons' home, along with many others, was severely damaged by water and mud due to flash floods in Sentani, Papua. Many lives were lost. They are digging their way out literally and figuratively from this demoralizing event. *Please pray for God's purposes to prevail during the furloughs and in the aftermath of the flooding ... for His glory and the advancement of His Kingdom through these servants.*



THE HARRINGTONS
www.wycliffe.org/
partner/124E53

Fundraiser Dinner for Mission Alaska

Saturday June 1, 2019 at Atonement Free Lutheran Church
Arlington, WA

As the Lord has led MATA to continue to minister and train its students in Alaska, we ask that you join us for our **3rd Annual Alaska Fundraiser Dinner**. This is a special evening of presentations, testimonies, and wonderful food and fellowship.

We are asking for a **\$100/plate donation with a goal of \$12,000**. We are so grateful for all our supporters over the years who the Lord has raised up to pray for and fund our ministry of training and equipping pilots for mission aviation ministry!

Please call to reserve your seat (or table of 6) at 425-231-5855. More details to come!



Former student
Michelle Craig
at Kako Retreat
Center 2018

Staff Achievements

Both **Doug Nunziato** and **Drew Aungst** achieved their FAA Inspection Authorization (IA) in March. The IA is the highest certification you can get as an aircraft mechanic and this achievement will be a big help for the MATA maintenance ministry. *Congratulations to both!*

Ministry Events

Check FB and our website for the latest updates and schedules.



- April 25-27** Christian Heritage Homeschool Conference, Redmond, WA
MATA will be present to mobilize future missionary pilots.
- May 19** Darrington Fly-In, Darrington, WA
MATA will give a presentation and airplane rides at Glad Tidings Church as a community outreach event.
- June 1** Alaska Ministry Fundraiser Dinner (see above)
- July 21-26** Summer Aviation Camp, Arlington, WA
All camper slots are filled!

A transition ahead ... the Aungsts to serve with Missionary Flights International



the **AUNGSTS**
Drew | Betty | Kathryn

Drew (with wife Betty) came to MATA in July of 2015 as a flight student and transitioned to staff in 2016. Drew has been a real asset to the MATA maintenance team. **Please be in prayer for the Aungst family as they prepare to transition to MFI this fall, raise support, and prepare for baby#2 who is due in July.**

To learn more about or support the Aungsts' future ministry at MFI: www.missionaryflights.org/aungst

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MISSION AVIATION TRAINING ACADEMY



Student Corner

**Certified Flight
Instructor - Instrument**



Congrats!

Melody, 04/20/18

MATA currently has fourteen active students in training which keeps all our instructors quite busy.

This year, we welcomed several new students to our roster which include some with international roots. New to MATA training are:

Daniel Nazarov, Nate Mills, and Matthew Lynch for the Instrument and Commercial courses along with **Gabriel Lawrence** for

tailwheel training and the CFI course. Daniel has Russian roots and speaks Russian fluently, and Nate was born and grew up in Israel with his American parents who serve with Messianic Jews. So along with current MATA student Vitalily Nikishin, who is from the Ukraine, we have quite the international flavor in the MATA hangar at times.

Donald Belfils is a student serving in the Washington Air National Guard who has his sights set on the mission field. Donald will be returning to receive training in our Cessna 206 in anticipation of our Technical Evaluation (TE) Prep course.

Please remember to pray for all our students who balance life, work, and training while preparing to be missionary pilots!

MATA Bible Study

Draws to a Close for the Summer

From early fall through the spring months every year, Friday nights at MATA are a cherished time of fellowship, food, and a Bible Study for students, staff, and guests. This past year was full as we studied together the books of **Ephesians** and **Philippians**. We began the book of **Acts** and will continue our study in the fall and into next year. Staff and students also shared their personal testimonies and various missionary speakers presented their ministries to our group to include Flying Mission Zambia, Missionary Flights International (MFI), Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), JAARS (Wycliffe Bible Translators), and Mission Aviation Repair Center (MARC).



Director's Corner



DARY FINCK

From all of us at MATA, thank you for your faithful prayers and support!

This February we returned from our Alaska maintenance trip in Naknek only to find 16 inches of snow at our home in Arlington - *while there was no snow in Naknek!* And the snowy weather kept returning over the subsequent next few weeks. This greatly impacted flight training. Thankfully the students were able to catch up resulting in *39% more flights* than this time last year. One reason among others has been a considerable increase in student scholarship donations. *Thank you for investing in future missionary pilots! It is an investment in furthering the spread of the Gospel to the ends of the earth!*

**N6056R taxiing for departure
in the new snow.**

