

MATA

MISSION AVIATION TRAINING ACADEMY



425-231-5855

www.mata-usa.org

MATAUSA Find us on: facebook.

Arizona or Bust! *The best laid plans ...*

... when interrupted, make for the best missionary pilot training. This was the case when Flight Instructors **Gary Elliott** (with wife **Stacie**) and **Vic Santie** departed Arlington, WA on October 10th with MATA students **Vitaliy, Matthew, Brock, and Daniil**. The trip was a long weekend venture after many hours of planning with the southernmost stopping point being McNeal, Arizona, home of **Ethnos360 Aviation**.



Team N300HP - Cessna 185
(L-R) Gary, Vitaliy, Stacie & Matthew
Total flight: ≈2500nm

In the early hours of Thursday the 10th, both MATA teams “broke ground” heading southeast through the Cascades with the students at the controls. Gary and Vic coached them in their respective planes on staying focused on maintaining heading and altitude over the varied terrain. More than eight hours later the teams landed safely in Prescott, Arizona for the night. The next day’s goal: reach Ethnos360 by late morning.



Team N39MP - Cessna 206
(L-R) Vic, Daniil & Brock
Total flight: ≈2000nm

During the pre-flight run-up Friday morning, N300HP checked good and flew off toward McNeal, but N39MP had an issue. Only one magneto worked and therefore engine power and safety margin were reduced. The crew of N39MP was stuck until Saturday when the repair could be completed. Vic commented, “**Brock and Daniil were disappointed, but**

learned the reality that sometimes, you just don’t make it to your destination.” So although N39MP never made it to Ethnos360, the crew from N300HP enjoyed their visit and tour at the mission agency with whom the Elliots once served in the Philippines.

On Saturday both planes departed back to Arlington, N300HP from McNeal and N39MP from Prescott. In the Lord’s providence N39MP made it all the way back home Saturday, but this time N300HP ran into a problem. Upon landing in Medford, Oregon for

the night the tailwheel tire blew with no spare on board. They were potentially stuck until Monday, still far from home. On Sunday however, Dary Finck and student Nathan Harmer were able to



in McNeal at Ethnos360

take N39MP (which had arrived “providentially” the night before) from Arlington to Medford to repair the blown tailwheel tire. By Sunday night the 13th, all crews were home and planes safely secured in the MATA hangar.

THE MATA FACILITY IS Now Officially MATA’s!

Back in our December 2017 letter, we gave a report on the \$1.3 million dollar Capital Campaign we had begun earlier that year to buy our facility. We had asked for prayer and pledges that God would provide all we needed to purchase our leased facility, thereby saving MATA \$3,000,000 (and more) in future lease payments from donor funding.

We are so excited to report to you now that on October 18th we were blessed with all the funds to purchase the facility outright! Will you praise the Lord with us on the amazing provision in such a relatively short time frame. A heartfelt “**Thank You**” to the former owner, Barb Weston. She was always gracious while MATA was a tenant and during the sale of the property. *Finally, a gracious “thank you” for all who prayed and gave so generously towards this endeavor!*



Barb shown above signing the property transfer documents with Director Dary Finck and MATA Board Members Pastor Cal Willard and Joe Hopkins.

**WE PRAISE THE LORD
FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF SAFE FLIGHT!**

hours flown in 2019



MATA Training	1385.2
Alaska Ministry & Training	81.5
Summer Camp	76.6
2019 YTD*	1543.3

*as of this printing

And in addition, this past year:

13 students & staff earned certificates/ratings
7 students joined mission agencies and are moving toward or have landed on the field

Upcoming Dates

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



- January 15** MATA Aviation Summer Camp application process opens
See <https://www.mata-usa.org/summer-aviation-camp/>
- February 27 thru March 1** Missions Conference at First Baptist Church, Arlington, WA
MATA will have a booth and be participating to share the scope of our ministry and encourage others into missions.
- April 23-25** Christian Heritage Homeschool Conference, Redmond, WA
MATA will have a booth to mobilize future workers for the field.

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MATA
P.O. Box 3655
19002 59th Dr. NE
Arlington, WA 98223
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STUDENT CORNER *Congratulations on these milestone achievements!*

Certified Flight Instructor
08/24/19

Gabe
with Instructor Gary (left)
and FAA Examiner (right)

Multi-Engine Rating
08/24/19

Ryan
with Instructor Gary

Instrument Rating
09/16/19

Matthew
with Instructor Ella

Commercial License
09/13/19
Multi-Engine Rating
11/04/19

Brock
with Instructor Gary

Seven students joined mission agencies and are moving toward or have landed on the mission field in 2019. We applaud their perseverance through all the years of training and pre-field preparations in order to “go”. God has richly and graciously provided for each one and their families on this journey to the field. *Please pray for these (below) and all our students and their families as they seek to give their lives to full-time missionary service for the advancement of Christ’s Kingdom to the ends of the earth!*

Director's Corner



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! It has been a very busy but very exciting year as we have logged the most flight hours along with training accomplished ever in MATA history. It was also a significant milestone that we saw more missionaries from our program reach the field than ever before. *We praise the Lord for how He is using MATA!* In addition, Gary Elliott has been developing a new MATA curriculum for FAA certification which would allow for training international students. Once certified, our plan is to then work with the State Department to bring in foreign national missionaries for flight training. We are also developing a plan for a MATA “North” program in Alaska. *Pray as we seek the Lord’s wisdom in this.* MATA also needs more classrooms, and we are raising money for these needed spaces to be built at the training facility. *We look forward to 2020 with great anticipation. Thank you all for your continued faithful prayers and support!*