

MATA

MISSION AVIATION TRAINING ACADEMY



425-231-5855

www.mata-usa.org

MATAUSA



Mission Alaska

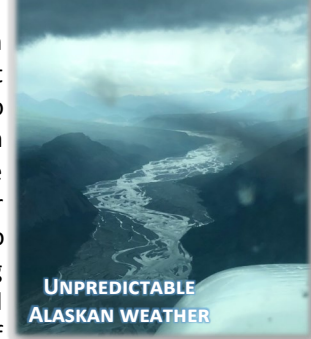
Alaska has proven itself, once again, to be the perfect venue for missionary pilot training. With Dary (MATA Director) as the common denominator, three “shifts” of MATA students helped serve in Alaska while gaining invaluable flight training. On **May 21st**, Dary and students Nate and Justin took off in N39MP for western Alaska to serve at Kako Retreat Center. The 2-day flight to Kako from Arlington, WA challenged the team with flight decisions concerning weather and poor visibility (due to smoke), fuel management, and fatigue. Once arriving at Kako, the work was nonstop. A record number of flights to and from Kako to surrounding villages brought in 120 campers for family camp in just one day! After one week of camp, Nate and Justin then returned home and MATA student Don came to Alaska on **June 8th** as “shift #2”. Don served and ministered in many ways to the Kako campers and to missionaries, including repair of a broken-down church van in Naknek. Don also gained first-hand flight experience in the unpredictable Alaskan climate flying to and from native villages. On **June 15th**, Don returned to the “lower 48” and MATA student Melody along with staff member Doug arrived to help Dary fly N39MP back home. Like the others, neither Melody nor Doug had flown in the vast, rugged terrain of Alaska or the Yukon Territory, and they picked up invaluable flight experience finishing what was a total of 6,800 nautical miles (81.8 flight hours) flown in service. Thank you so much for all your financial and prayer support as MATA trains and equips pilots for future missionary service!



(L-R FRONT) NATE, DARY, JUSTIN WITH TWO KAKO MISSIONARIES (REAR)



DON AND MELODY AT THE CONTROLS



UNPREDICTABLE ALASKAN WEATHER

MATA Alumni “Land on the Field”

Tim Reed was a MATA summer camper back in 2009, was at MATA in 2016 for technical evaluation prep, and has recently arrived in Papua New Guinea as a JAARS missionary pilot. Tim will serve to help advance the work of Bible translation amongst the unreached. Ian Rojas came to MATA in 2013 for flight training and has recently celebrated his first solo flight as an MAF missionary pilot on the field. In 2018 Ian arrived in Indonesia for language training, and this year he transitioned to his place of full-time service on the island of Kalimantan. And finally, we are excited to report that a **MATA long-time volunteer and Board Member** (name withheld) is departing soon for a year of service in SE Asia where he will use his aviation skills to help advance the Gospel in that particular region of the world. Please pray for these new missionaries!



Ministry Events

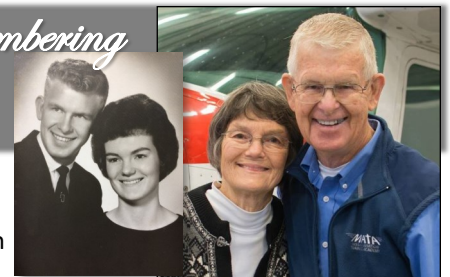
Check FB and our website for the latest updates and schedules.



- August 16-18** **Arlington Fly-In, Arlington, WA** (Arlington Municipal Airport) MATA will have a booth to not only inform about the MATA ministry, but also connect and share the Gospel with patrons. Sunday morning MATA will perform the Chapel service on the airshow grounds. *Please pray for this great opportunity!*
- September 13** **MATA Bible Study and Fellowship begins, the MATA Hangar**
- October 18-19** **Missions Fest Seattle, Bellevue, WA** MATA will have a booth to mobilize future missionary pilots.

Remembering

Elaine Bakke



MATA lost a dear friend and servant in the ministry, Elaine Bakke, on May 1, 2019. Elaine was the faithful wife of former MATA director Gordon Bakke. The Bakkes spent their lifelong missionary career serving in Zambia, at MATA, and at Kako Retreat Center in western Alaska. She is sorely missed by all.

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STUDENT CORNER *Congratulations on these milestone achievements!*

Instrument Rating



Nathan, 06/27/19
(with Instructor Vic)

Private Pilot



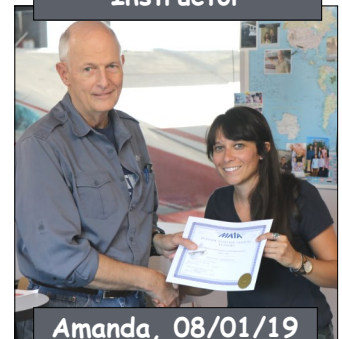
Ben, 06/28/19
(with Instructor Ella)

Instrument Rating



Daniil, 06/29/19
(with Instructor Vic)

Certified Flight Instructor



Amanda, 08/01/19
(with Instructor Gary)

MATA Bible Study Resumes September 13

The Friday night MATA study is a time for edification in the Word and an opportunity to build ministry skills for our students in the area of teaching. Missionary guest speakers will also share during the year to encourage us regarding ministry on the field. The evening begins with food and fellowship followed by the study. *Call the main office at 425-231-5855 for more info.*

Student Camaraderie

MATA students come from various backgrounds and different stages of life. They all share one commonality—a desire to give their lives in service to the Lord through mission aviation. This common goal combined with their fellowship in Christ builds lifelong bonds between them during their time in training. While at MATA they also enjoy outdoor activities, studying together, and building flight time while exploring the skies together. *Please keep our students in prayer during this “equipping phase” for their future missionary work!*



**MATA STUDENTS MATT AND NATE
WORKING TOGETHER ON FLIGHT SKILLS**

Director's Corner



DARY FINCK

This July 26 we finished our 13th Aviation Summer Camp. This is a week-long camp designed to expose teens to not just the world of aviation, but how aviation plays a critical role in reaching the isolated peoples of the world with the Gospel. The campers spend half their day on the ground learning about such topics as aerodynamics, weather, and the airport environment in ground school (leaving plenty of free time for pretending to be an F-18 pilot on the flight simulator or a competitive game of air hockey). The other half of the day is spent in the air learning flight maneuvers and traffic pattern work. The highlight of the week is the final day of camp, when they perform a cross-country flight covering over 150 nautical miles. The camp, from a MATA perspective, takes a lot of preparational work. And another benefit from all this work—mobilization. In the 12 previous years of summer camp, over 10% of the campers have come back to train with us. And from this past camp, five campers expressed a sincere desire from the Lord to come back and train as missionary pilots! *We praise the Lord as He uses MATA to raise up and equip more laborers for the field!*