



Periodical



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Customer Spotlight John Solberg

This quarter's Customer Spotlight is on retired US Fish and Wildlife pilot John Solberg.

Growing up in Medford OR, John's passion for aviation came easy to him as a young child. He lived in the flight path for the local airport and was that stereotypical kid looking through the chain linked fence at airplanes. Along with an interest in flying, John also had an interest in wildlife. It wasn't until he was in junior high when his mother put the thought in his head to work with wildlife and fly airplanes as a career. This was easier said than done as John went on to learn.



Once graduating high school, John went to Colorado State University, in Fort Collins for a degree in Wildlife Biology. In his third year, he joined the university's flying club at Christman Field. With only 30 active pilots in the club, and up to 17 airplanes on the flightline, "A young pilot could not ask for a better situation in terms of aircraft availability" said John. "I can actually remember when there was a big uproar within the club

as per hour wet rates for a C-150 increased from \$6.25 to \$6.75 an hour! The rental increase was due to AVGAS prices increasing from \$.28 to \$.32 a gallon."

As John finished up his Wildlife Biology degree, he also obtained his private, instrument and commercial ratings. The next hard task was finding a job in a highly competitive natural resources field. Persistence and determination was key for John as he spent evenings learning to type following his "day job" of scrubbing airplane bellies. About three years after college, his self-taught typing skill allowed him to get his foot in the door as a Clerk for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Anchorage AK. Even after five years there, he was not quite able to fulfill his dream of tying wildlife and flying together, but he wasn't giving up.

Finally, in 1985, John got the break he was waiting for. He had moved back to Colorado to work on a National Wildlife Refuge when he was offered to work in the Office of Migratory Bird Management as a Flyway Biologist. His new position had him flying up and down the continent doing survey and tracking missions for all kinds of migratory birds. He did this for 25 years, before retiring in 2010. "I had doubts that I wasn't going to get my dream job. It was a long hard grind, but I kept at it and eventually it came true", stated John. Now, with a 1953 Piper Super Cub based at the Mandan Airport, John does all his flying for fun.

In 1998, John moved to Bismarck/Mandan community and has lived here ever since. "I was fascinated with North Dakota and I always wanted to live here. My two biggest interests in wildlife

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Mark Your Calendar

5th Annual Aviation

Poker Run

May 7th

Lunch starts at 11AM

Be in Mandan by 12PM

Additional door prizes to be given away
Including 2 ForeFlight Subscriptions

Participating Airports:

- ♦ Bismarck
- ♦ Carrington
- ♦ Devils Lake
- ♦ Dickinson
- ♦ Ashley
- ♦ Glen Ullin
- ♦ Hazelton
- ♦ Hazen
- ♦ Watford City
- ♦ Washburn
- ♦ Fargo
- ♦ Jamestown
- ♦ Linton
- ♦ Minot
- ♦ Napoleon
- ♦ Richardton
- ♦ Riverdale
- ♦ Valley City
- ♦ Williston
- ♦ Harvey

\$350
Grand Prize



All Proceeds go to support Scottish Rite
Speech Therapy Center for Kids

Call Shae or visit our Facebook page for more details.

Solberg continued

were ducks and geese and we all know that North Dakota lies in the heart of the continent's Duck Factory." As things would have it, John got to know Bob Simmers and Mike Aarestad through his 25 year flying career. Just after getting his dream job in 1986, John had Bob check him out in a C-182. Then later when John moved to Bismarck, Mike Aarestad started working on his aircraft and it has been a great relationship ever since.

John gives a lot of the credit for his success to his parents. "They both grew up on farms and instilled the qualities of hard work and persistence in me. They always supported me and encouraged me to keep at it." He also gives credit to supporter

and friend, Art Brazda, who was also a Flyway Biologist. Art was a Mandan native who always encouraged him to stick with flying.

When asked about what advice he had for young and aspiring pilots, John talked about staying determined. "There are predictions of personnel shortages in the aviation industry so opportunities will be there for those with the skills and training. It is an exciting time to be looking at a flying career. Even if it is not here yet, anyone who sticks with it will be successful. There are a lot of great people in the Bismarck/Mandan aviation community that will be happy to help anyone out. Just don't give up."

The Flightline Lands New Fuel Partnership



Over the years, we have watched as the Bismarck Aero Center Flightline Department has continuously grown. They have brought on high quality technicians, value added training, and new ways to compliment pilot and passenger's aviation travels. As we roll into the summer months, we will see one more big change as things start to look a little more, **BLUE**.

This April marks an exciting partnership between Bismarck Aero Center and aviation fuel provider, World Fuel Services. Supplying Ascent branded fuel, they have been steadily growing their presence in the general aviation market over the years. They work with FBO's, nationally and internationally, providing excellent support and help to drive continuous improvement.

With this new partnership, we will still be pumping the same great fuel into aircraft and have the same friendly staff 24/7. So what will change? Bismarck Aero Center will be looking to World Fuel Services for their increased levels of support. They will bring additional customer service training to the staff and a better loyalty rewards system for customers (the FlyBuys Rewards Program). Flightline Manager, Dora Meier, is enthusiastic for the transition. "We went with World Fuel Services because of what we saw them doing for other FBO's, and also saw an opportunity to take our services to the next level."

Stop by the Flightline and talk to Skylar if you have any questions about the new partnership. Make sure to ask how you can start to earn FlyBuy points on your next flight!

Young Eagles Looking for Students

The Bismarck-Mandan EAA Chapter 1008 is looking for students ages 8-17 that are interested in learning more about aviation. This is a completely volunteer driven program. There are no fees or prior experiences needed to become a Young Eagle. All you need to do is sign up! Events are held at the Mandan Airport and are based on how many students sign up for the program.

The Young Eagles program, established nationally in 1992, was developed to welcome young people into the world of aviation. Aviation is a very exciting and vital piece to our nation's future, and the best way to pass this message on is by the experience of flight in a first-hand setting. Students that sign up to be in the Young Eagles program experience a safe and educational flight with a local EAA volunteer. Nationwide, this program has given



nearly 2 million students more than just airplane rides. It gives a new perspective on the world and may be their starting point on a lifelong passion for aviation.

If you have or know of a potential Young Eagle, contact the local EAA Young Eagles Coordinator Shae at shaeh@bismarckaero.com. Turn a student's dream into a reality with the Young Eagles Program.

New Hire



Chris Brown, Professional Pilot
Chris joins Bismarck Aero Center's Flight Department with over thirty years of flight experience. He received his bachelor of Business Administration from the University of North Dakota with an emphasis in Aviation Administration Management. Chris has accumulated commercial

flying experience at a local Bismarck-Mandan business where he served as the Pilot and CFO. Along with his aviation background, Chris has vast experiences in the business world as he owned his own business that focused on providing financial and operation consulting for IT businesses around the United States.

Chris's previous commercial flying experience has prepared him well for the decision making requirements of flying several different missions. Along with his solid business acumen, Chris is a perfect match for the professional pilot and client management duties at Bismarck Aero Center. Please help us welcome Chris Brown to our Team!

Maintenance Department Strengthens Commitment to Training



This spring, the BAC and MAC maintenance departments have been honored by the FAA (Diamond Award) and the NATA (5 Star Recognition for AMT training) for the hours our A&P Technicians have spent on additional training. Each year, all our technicians need to complete over 12 hours of aircraft training for us to receive these awards. Training includes classes taken for IA renewal at the Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium, advanced factory training, FAA safety training courses and much more. The extra education they go through continues to make our shops safer and our customers confident in the aircraft we sign off.

To further show our commitment to training, our technicians, the BAC and MAC maintenance departments have enrolled in the Flight Safety International "Event Based Maintenance Training Program". This program will allow maintenance technicians to attend advanced aircraft training as it is needed and help better serve our customers' ever changing needs. At the end of the day, we want our customers knowing that their aircraft is safe for them and their families every time it leaves one of our shops.

Introducing The Bismarck Flying Club

A new flying club is coming this summer to Bismarck. This will be a great opportunity for both student pilots and certified pilots alike.

Ownership for a 172 Skyhawk, N1664V (pictured below), is in the process of being split into 10 equal shares to make up the Bismarck Flying Club. Before this flying club, N1664V (aka 64Victor) has been a great aircraft around Bismarck. It has been the main aircraft many students obtained their Private Pilot License in, given numerous rides to families during the local pancake breakfasts and has been a key learning tool for young kids seeing an aircraft for the first time. The aircraft has been well taken care of over the years and is a great way to get into aviation without a large investment.

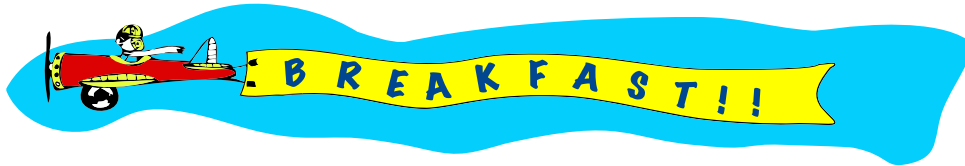
Deposits are being taken to join and are first come, first serve! Contact Garhett Langer at 701.223.4754 or garhettl@bismarckaero.com for more details about how you can be a part owner.



Avionics Include

- Garmin 340 audio panel
- GNS430W GPS/Com/Nav
- Garmin GNC255 Com/Nav
- #1 Nav indicator is a GI106A CDI
- #2 Nav indicator is a Bendix King CDI KI209
- Transponder is a Cessna ARC RT-359A
- A 396 Garmin handheld

PLANES AND Pancakes



FLY IN! 
Breakfast Served
8 AM - 11:30 AM

**SUNDAY
JUNE 12, 2016**

Located 4 Miles South of Mandan, ND on Highway 6

AIRPLANE AND HELICOPTER



**RIDES
AVAILABLE**



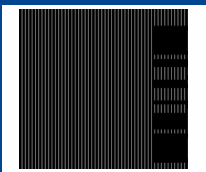
Airplane simulators will be available for trying your hand at flying an airplane!



**Chapter 1008
Bismarck & Mandan**

Come on out to walk around and view all types of aircrafts!

After breakfast, head to downtown Mandan to the Buggies-N-Blues for live music, food vendors, and more than 500 classic cars!!



Follow us on
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For More Information

www.mandanairport.com
(701)663-0669

www.buggies-n-blues.com

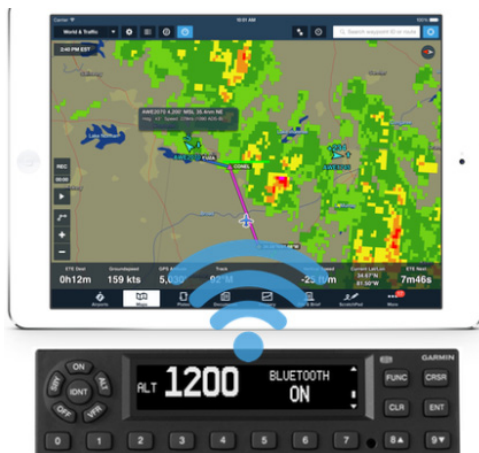


Product Spotlight

Garmin GTX 335 & 345



The rush for ADS-B technology continues to drive the avionics market leaders to develop better and better systems. Garmin is the most recent to come out with “the next best thing” as they recently unveiled the new GTX 335 & 345 all-in-one ADS-B transponders. With the most compatibility options in the industry, these new transponders display on a wide variety of current and legacy Garmin displays.



At 1.65 inch, the GTX 335 & 345 make it easy to replace some of the most popular transponders in the industry. Both will function as a standard ADS-B Out transponder and will meet the upcoming FAA regulations. If an aircraft

already has Garmin certified WAAS position source, a remote or panel-mounted version of the GTX 335/345 can interface with the WAAS and will take the place of the transponder. Without a WAAS, the GTX 335 & 345 can be upgraded with an option for integrated WAAS/GPS position source, providing aircraft operators and owners with an all-in-one solution.

Regardless of the existing avionics in an aircraft, the GTX 345 displays an incredible amount of valuable flight information on compatible portable devices. The GTX 345 can wirelessly receive ADS-B traffic, weather and precise GPS position data for use within mobile devices. The Connex/Bluetooth connectivity works with Garmin Pilot, ForeFlight Mobile, Aera 795/796 and AHRS Attitude Data.

The remote mounted GTX 335 & 345 transponders are compatible with the GTN650/750 series and the G1000. In certain aircraft, the GTX series offers internal GPS that would be a great compliment to the G1000 applications that do not have WAAS. To see if your G1000 system is compatible or to learn more about this product, contact Kris Hexom at 701.223.4754 or krish@bismarckaero.com.

Maintenance Corner

“Some of you Cessna pilots might be experiencing a shimmy when rolling out on landing in certain conditions. This shimmy is exaggerated when there is a wheel fairing on the nose gear, and some of you would attest that it gets so violent that it seems like it must be damaging some parts of the nose gear. It has been determined that to repair this, you will need to remove and reinstall new bushings in the nose scissors assembly. There is an after-market kit available to help with this. If the remaining parts are in good condition, using a special procedure, the nose shimmy can be completely eliminated. The owner can check for this loose condition by moving the nose gear slightly with a tow bar and watching for

movement. Servicing the strut to the proper level will also help with the shimmy condition.

Without a pilot reporting the nose shimmy, this will often go undetected due to it being an operational problem. For Mooney flyers, you folks experience a different issue occasionally: If the nose gear makes the plane veer (or get a little squirrely), to the side during rollout after landing, there are some things we can do about that. Some Mooney operators have said that this is how they are, but that’s not the case. You don’t have to put up with this! We can take care of that issue for you.”



Events to look forward to

May 7	Aviation Poker Run, ending at the Mandan Airport
May 11	13th Annual Aviation Career Day, Bismarck ND
May 24-26	Williston Basin Petroleum Conference, Bismarck ND
June 12	Planes and Pancakes Fly-In Breakfast, Mandan Airport
Sept. 11	Bismarck Fly in
Oct. 22	Zoo Boo 2016

Trivia

May 7th holds a very important event in our aviation history. This year will mark the 79th anniversary of the completion of the world's first aircraft that was specifically constructed with a pressurized passenger cabin. It revolutionized aircraft of the time and is called the "true ancestor of all modern pressurized airliners." It pointed the way for pressurized bombers and transports, the first of which were Boeing's B-29 and Model 307. That aircraft was?

Submit your answer before May 27th for a chance to win a \$25 gift card! Contact Shae Helling at shaeh@bismarckaero.com or 701.223.4754

Last newsletter's correct answer was C. B-50A Superfortress was the very first aircraft to go around-the-world nonstop. Congratulations to Cody Fleck for being last quarter's lucky winner.

- A. Beech Model 18
- B. Lockheed XC-35
- C. Arado Ar 196
- D. Modified the Wright Flyer

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