

The Aero Center

# RUN-UP

Bismarck Aero Center & Mandan Aero Center

## CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT

Page 1

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Page 3

## MAINTENANCE CORNER

Page 6

VOLUME 25 · ISSUE 3 · SEPTEMBER 2021



# CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT

## Featuring John Lucero

Our customer spotlight this issue is on local pilot John Lucero, who divides his time between Bismarck and the Florida Keys. Here are his thoughts on living in North Dakota during the summer:

*new local in the office and learning about the countless airports around the state. The Instructors are qualified and available. When I have a squawk the guys at maintenance are on it as soon as they get the message.*



*John and his aircraft*

*It is hard to leave the Florida Keys, even for a few months. The ocean is crystal clear, the water sports and fishing are unlimited, the happy hours abundant, and everyone is on a permanent chill-out island vibe. It's a great place to fly as there are great cities to visit, the weather is predictable, and there are lots of airports and airshows. But it's not all paradise. The airspace can be crowded, hangar space is impossible, and the salt air necessitates extra vigilance over an airframe.*

*By contrast, KBIS is a breath of fresh airspace. I love parking my plane at the Bismarck Aero Center, knowing it will be carefully tucked away in a hangar and promptly placed on line when I want to fly. I'm always meeting a*



*The Lucero Family*

*This summer, I am flying my family out to Medora for the famous musical, to Fargo for the AirSho, and to Rapid City where my two little girls almost wear themselves out at the indoor water park. You would think the abundant tennis, art camps, gymnastics, swimming pools and horse riding opportunities in Bismarck would wear them out, but kids never get tired. Thank goodness there are no waiting lists or unreasonable registration fees in this town. Every year the girls have a good old-fashioned, innocent summer they'll never forget.*

*I'll be back in the Keys soon, but I'll always have a place to escape to at the Bismarck Aero Center.*

## SPOTTED ON THE RAMP:

### Douglas DC-3

The DC-3 pioneered many air travel routes before World War II and was heavily used in transport of troops during the war. Spotted in Bismarck was this DC-3 "Miss Montana". This aircraft has an interesting restoration story that is captured in the book "Every Reason to Fail". From scrap to flying to France for the 75th Anniversary of D-day, *Miss Montana* is a true aviation treasure.



*BAC is proud to be an Air Elite FBO & provide great service to all our customers.*

THE 10TH ANNUAL BISMARCK

# FLY-IN & DRIVE-IN



== SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 ==

PRESENTED BY



FREE WILL DONATION

AIRPLANE RIDES  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
GIVEAWAYS

8<sup>A</sup><sub>M</sub> TO 1<sup>P</sup><sub>M</sub>

KID'S ACTIVITIES  
CLASSIC CAR DISPLAY  
AIRCRAFT DISPLAY

BISMARCK AERO CENTER • 2301 UNIVERSITY DR. BLDG. 53

MORE INFO AT [FACEBOOK.COM/BISMARCK.AERO.CENTER](https://www.facebook.com/Bismarck.Aero.Center)

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE SCOTTISH RITE SPEECH THERAPY CENTER FOR CHILDREN

# PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

## Garmin introduces Smart Glide safety technology

Garmin recently introduced Smart Glide, a revolutionary safety tool that helps pilots in loss of engine power emergencies by automating tasks to reduce pilot workload. It is a part of Garmin's Autonomi family of autonomous flight technologies. In the event of the loss of engine power in a single-engine aircraft, a pilot faces the urgent, workload-intensive job of maneuvering the aircraft from its current position to a suitable airport.

Through compatible avionics, such as GTN™ Xi series navigators, Smart Glide provides assistance to the pilot by recommending a suitable airport estimated to be within glide range, as well as providing critical information to the pilot and optimizing select avionics settings, helping save the pilot precious time and workload. When paired with a compatible Garmin autopilot, Smart Glide can automatically engage the autopilot and pitch for the aircraft's best glide speed while simultaneously navigating the aircraft within the vicinity of the selected airport so the pilot can execute an approach and landing.

Here are some of the features Smart Glide provides in an emergency situation:

**Activation and Airport Selection:** Smart Glide recommends an airport estimated to be within glide range and automatically creates a direct-to route.

In addition, Smart Glide provides automated adjustment of select avionics settings including the changing of the primary COM standby to the airport CTAF or tower and automatic switching of the CDI to GPS mode.

**Access Critical Information:** Pilots can access critical Smart Glide information when they need it most and to better prepare for a landing at a potentially unfamiliar airport. The Smart Glide Page displays glide speed based on the specific aircraft, airport name, an alternate airport list, arrival above ground level (AGL) altitude, longest runway information, and more.

**Displays Approach and Landing:** When the aircraft is within four nautical miles from the selected airport, Smart Glide will alert the pilot that they are approaching the airport environment with both an aural alert and visual banner. Within two miles of the airport, audible airport position alerts and a flashing red alert displayed on the GTN Xi will advise the pilot to resume control and begin maneuvering for landing. In the event of an off-airport landing, Smart Glide provides audible AGL altitude alerts to help ensure the pilot is aware of the altitude while maintaining their focus on landing locations.

*If you are interested in learning more about the Smart Glide technology, call me at 701.223.4754 or email me at [Krish@bismarckaero.com](mailto:Krish@bismarckaero.com). The Tech Guy, Kris*

## Upcoming Events



**12  
SEPT**

Bismarck Aero Center Fly-In

**7  
OCT**

Props & Hops (Mandan Aero Center)

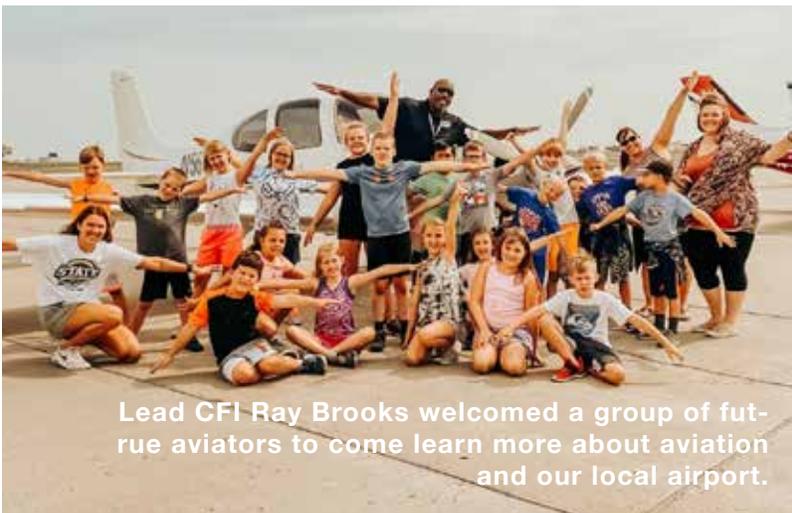
We recommend confirming upcoming events with local airports or organizers.



Congratulations to one of our very own Maintenance Technicians, Isaac Jung, on completing his first solo!



Along with the DC-3 Miss Montana, our FBO saw a second DC-3 send some time with us in Bismarck on its way to Oshkosh, WI.



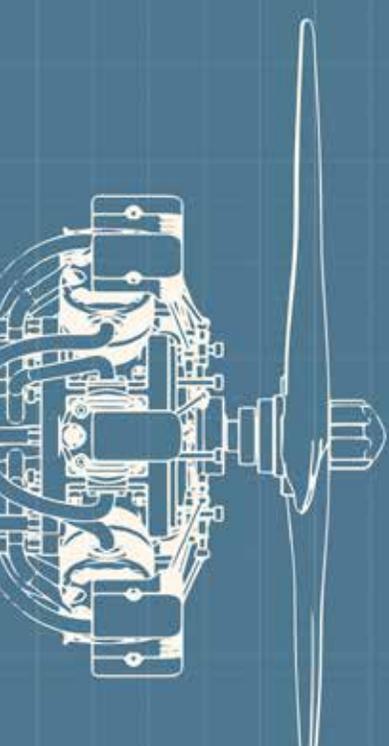
Lead CFI Ray Brooks welcomed a group of future aviators to come learn more about aviation and our local airport.



It was a beautiful day for golf at the 2021 FLY-ND Summerfest!



BAC had flight simulators at the Larks STEM Expo at the ball park!



THE FIFTH ANNUAL

# PROPS & HOPS

BEER • FOOD • MUSIC

OCTOBER 7 • 6:30-9:00 PM

MANDAN AERO CENTER





# New Faces



## TREY JAHNER Flightline Technician I

Trey joins the Bismarck Aero Center with previous flightline experience. He has spent the last few years as a Forklift Operator, in addition to being a Flightline Technician. He has excellent customer service skills and is always ready to jump in and help customers and co-workers alike. He has indicated that having integrity, trust, being kind, and being a great co-worker are values that are important to his own personal standards.

## COME FLY WITH US *Flight Instruction Tip*

Once again summer is in full swing and if you haven't noticed: *IT IS HOT!* Unfortunately, this time of year also brings the threat of thunderstorms, haze, turbulence, and smoke. Even though we haven't seen much rain, the potential is still out there. No pilot wants to be surprised by a bad pop-up summer storm. However, there are ways to mitigate the dangers of ugly flying weather. If you have a clear avoidance or escape strategy planned, you can avoid in-air anxiety and reach your destination safely. Here are a few tips to keep in mind when dealing with summer weather.

**Depart Early in the Day:** Heat causes thunderstorms and turbulence to rise, so the sooner you get in the air the better. The most dangerous time of day for thunderstorms is typically 5 to 7 pm. Flying early helps you avoid the risk of encountering a dangerous storm.

And be sure that before you leave, stay up to date on the forecast.

**Keep Your Cool:** Even the most seasoned pilots can occasionally encounter a storm. According to the FAA, you can encounter hail and violent turbulence within 20 miles of a very strong thunderstorm. The first thing to do when caught in a storm is to reduce airspeed immediately to maneuvering speed and tighten seatbelts and shoulder harnesses. Experts also suggest staying on the same heading when you run into a storm instead of turning around.

**Enjoy Flying Season:** Keeping calm and using your best judgement is key to avoiding thunderstorms and other dangerous summer weather. Be well prepared, and above all, have fun! After all, flying is meant to be enjoyed by all.



Interested in flight instruction at BAC?  
Contact Ray: 701-223-4754 or  
rayb@bismarckaero.com

# MAINTENANCE CORNER

The Bismarck Aero Center has recently become an authorized Cirrus Service Center. Cirrus aircraft are rapidly becoming more and more popular for a number of reasons. From a maintenance standpoint, their technical support is second to none. Their responsiveness and knowledge sharing far surpasses any other piston aircraft manufacturer.

By becoming a service center, it allows us to further improve our maintenance abilities. We now have Cirrus factory-trained technicians! This training consists of two weeks' worth of classroom training, demonstrations, and hands-on projects. It covers topics ranging from system descriptions and potential problem areas to composite work and parachute installations. In addition to the actual training, the experience allows our technicians to build relationships with Cirrus employees directly. Our

collaborative partnership will help later on when we really need the support from the factory. Finally, we will also now have access to directly order Cirrus factory parts, which will save our customers time and money.

The benefit of this is not just to Cirrus owners. The extra training will also improve our maintenance department for non-Cirrus customers, as many of the systems Cirrus uses are also used in a variety of other aircraft. This training gives us more depth and better experience throughout all the different aircraft we work on at BAC.

This has been a great step for us, as we continue to look for ways to improve the experience our customers receive. If you have any questions about our maintenance department's new capabilities, please reach out to me and see how we can help with your aircraft!

- Erik Peterson, Lead Maintenance Technician

## GET TO KNOW OUR INTERNS



**Eden West**  
*Business Administration*

Eden was BAC's Business Administration Intern this summer. Her tasks included helping with projects in marketing, accounting, customer service, and

social media. She will continue working at BAC while she finishes her bachelor at Minot State, with a double major in Management and Finance.

Currently, Eden is a private pilot and has an associate degree in Business Administration from BSC. She is looking to continue her flight training as well as go to school and earn her IFR, commercial and Instructor licensing. One day, she is hoping to own her own flight instruction school. In her free time, she enjoys painting, flying and spending time with family.

During the internship, she enjoyed helping with several projects and getting a better understanding of how to run a small business and explore the many outlets of owning a company, similar to the one she hopes to run in the future. Eden has been a part of the aviation industry since she was a kid and loves teaching, flying and leading. She previously worked at BAC as a flightline technician and has grown to love it in Bismarck and at Bismarck Aero Center.

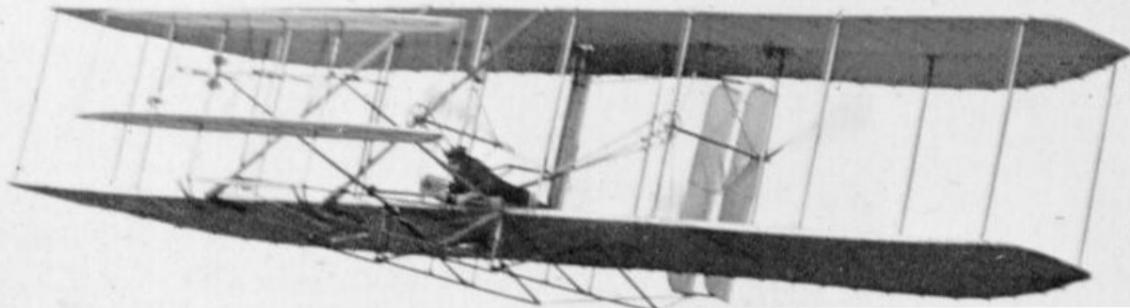


**Casey Wentzel**  
*Maintenance Assistant*

Casey spent his summer interning as a BAC maintenance assistant. When he was younger, he wanted to be a pilot, but later decided to switch his

focus to the maintenance side. Casey is currently a full time student at Lake Area Technical College in Watertown SD. Upon finishing school, he plans to complete his A&P license. He already holds his airframe license and is eager to finish up his powerplant license. In his free time, he enjoys riding dirt bikes and golfing.

For this internship, he has been excited to understand the different skills he will need as an aircraft maintenance technician, instead of just the work you learn at college. Some of Casey's biggest takeaways were gaining more experience, a deeper knowledge of BAC, as well as learning the "ins and outs" of being an aircraft mechanic. "I am originally from Bismarck and would like to be part of a smaller company where a person is more than just a number on a piece of paper" says Casey.



## Do you know your **TRIVIA?**

On August 19, we celebrated National Aviation Day! This holiday was established by presidential proclamation to take place annually on the anniversary of Orville Wright's birthday. Orville Wright was alive when the proclamation was first issued and would live another nine years. What year was this holiday first declared?

- A) 1928                      B) 1939  
C) 1943                      D) 1951

Submit your answer by 9/15 for a chance to win a \$25 gift card! Contact Shae at [shaeh@bismarckaero.com](mailto:shaeh@bismarckaero.com) or message us on our Facebook page.

*The answer to our previous question is D. United Airlines has an agreement with Boom Supersonic to purchase 15 supersonic aircraft for their fleet. Congratulations to Shannon Boehm for being this quarter's lucky winner!*

Photo courtesy of [www.wright-brothers.org](http://www.wright-brothers.org)

Keep up to date with events, aviation news & cool aircraft! Follow us at:

 [facebook.com/bismarck.aero.center](https://facebook.com/bismarck.aero.center)  [linkedin.com/company/bismarck-aero-center](https://linkedin.com/company/bismarck-aero-center)

2301 University Drive Bldg. 53  
Bismarck, N.D. 58504  
701.223.4754  
[www.bismarckaero.com](http://www.bismarckaero.com)

