

RUN-UP A & P EDITION

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Erik Peterson

Our spotlight this quarter is on Erik Peterson, BAC's Lead Maintenance Technician and this year's recipient of the 2020 North Dakota AMT of the Year Award.

Q: Share with us a little about yourself.

I was born and raised in Bismarck, ND. After turning 18 years old, I attended NDSU for Mechanical Engineering, then transferred to UND to become a Commercial Pilot. There, I earned my private pilot's license, and changed majors to Aviation Systems Management. I then moved to Colorado to attend the Westwood College of Aviation Technology for my A&P license. After completing the program, I transferred back to UND and graduated with my Bachelor's Degree.

After college, I worked on large commercial Boeing aircraft at Goodrich Aviation in Everett, WA, then for Frontier and

Erik and his wife, Amanda, receiving the AMT award



Erik with two of his sons: Seth (front) and Adam (back)

General Electric in Denver, CO. My wife and I eventually decided to move back to Bismarck, to be closer to family. That's when I began working at the Bismarck Aero Center.

Q: When were you first introduced to aviation?

As a kid, I had always thought airplanes were cool. My first flight was a commercial one with my parents, when I was in fifth grade. That experience sparked my interest in aviation, but it never grew into anything until college.

Q: When did you decide to become an A&P?

I decided to become an A&P while I was studying at UND. In one of the general aviation classes, the instructor was sharing majors in the aviation department and one of them was Aviation Systems Management. It combined management, mechanics, and aviation; it was the perfect degree to combine my mechanical abilities and interest in aviation.

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A&P SPOTLIGHT Continued

Q: What was your reaction to receiving the 2020 North Dakota AMT of the Year Award?

I found out I was receiving the award at the Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium the night before. I was wondering what time I would be leaving the next day, and Howard Burns informed me I needed to stay for the closing banquet to accept an award. I was pretty surprised, as I had no idea that I was even a nominee.

Q: What impact does this award have for you?

It is very rewarding to be selected, as feedback from my peers and customers regarding my work and I carry significant weight in determining who is awarded. It makes me feel like I am doing a good job, which is important to me.

Q: How do you think being a pilot has helped you as an A&P technician?

Being a pilot is helping me have a greater understanding when a customer is trying to explain what might be wrong with their plane. It also increases my overall knowledge of how everything works, and more knowledge about what you do always makes you a better A&P.

Q: Do your children have an interest in aviation?

Amanda and I have three sons and one is very interested in aviation. Since being part owner in a Piper Archer, he asked me to take him up flying for his birthday this past month. He had a blast!

Q: What are your future aviation goals?

As an A&P, it's important to me to continue expanding my knowledge on as much as I can. I like being able to help pilots and co-workers troubleshoot problems and look for the best possible solutions. As a pilot I, would like to work more on my instrument rating and wouldn't mind getting my commercial rating someday too!

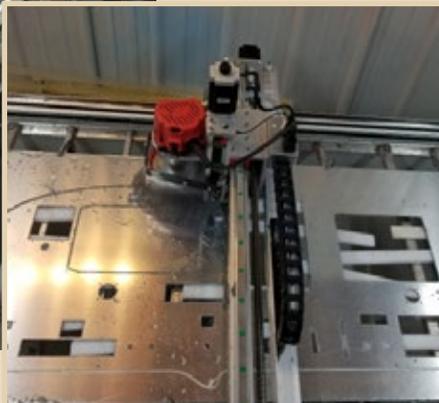
Q: What advice would you share with a young person interested in becoming an A&P and/or a pilot?

Hang out at the airport as much as you can, as it will help you with networking and understanding the aviation industry. I wish I would have thought about getting a job at the airport in high school or even college. At the time, I didn't even realize that there were so many different jobs available. Not all of them require prior schooling and make for a great intro into the world of aviation. Just get out there!

SPOTTED IN THE SHOP



The Panel-Pro 5925: Using this new Panel Pro 5925, our maintenance technicians can cut out custom aluminum panels for aircraft receiving an avionics upgrade. Customers are able to even have us engrave old labels, logos, or decals onto their new panel. Each panel is unique for its new owner. Along with new panels, this tool can also cut out reinforcing plates and alignment jigs.



Instead of waiting days for new panels, we can create them in a matter of hours. This keeps our projects rolling, improves our our turn-around time, and helps customers get their aircraft back sooner. Also, when we save time, that turns into our customers saving money!



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 24th	National AMT Day
July 20-27th	B-17 Sentimental Journey comes to Bismarck
Aug. 19th	National Aviation Day
Sep. 13th	Bismarck Fly-In (KBIS)

NEW FACES

Jamie Timmreck, Flightline Technician 1



Jamie returns to BAC with a life-long interest in aviation. He has logged hours toward his Private Pilot's license and is looking for opportunities to stay close to the industry.

Before coming to BAC, Jamie spent approximately six years in the oil patch working as a Field Operations Representative and Regional Sales Manager. His duties ranged from site project coordination, managing client relations, safety, business development, and sales. Since leaving the oil patch, Jamie has worked in home construction, pest control sales and estimating, while he and his wife were living in the Tucson area. His dedication and positive attitude makes him a great addition to our FBO Team. Welcome back, Jamie!

COME FLY WITH US Flight Instruction Tip

The FAA sets minimum standards for currency, but not proficiency. According to AOPA, "Proficiency in an aircraft includes normal operations, as well as knowledge of the emergency procedures for the aircraft that you fly, as well as type of flying." In other words, maintaining proficiency means going above and beyond the legal requirements of currency. Whether you're a student pilot or a seasoned aviator, practicing performance maneuvers and training using simulator programs can enhance your skills and may even prevent accidents down the road.

Happy Flying!

Ray Brooks, Lead CFI

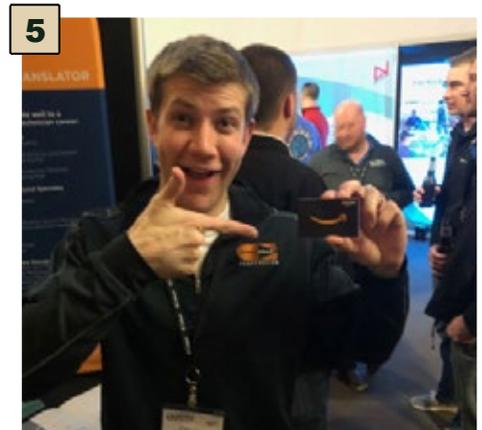


Interested in flight instruction at BAC?

Contact Ray: 701-223-4754 or rayb@bismarckaero.com.

QUARTERLY RECAP

Look at all the fun we had!



1. Shae and Linda at the annual NBAA-BACE Schedulers & Dispatchers conference in Charlotte, NC, with the lucky giveaway winners. 2. Just some of our great flightline team members, showing off their smiles! 3. Kris Hexom at UMAS 2020 accepting our Bismarck Aero's FAA Diamond Award for Technician Training, which Mandan Aero also received. 4. Erik and Jon presenting a \$1500 NDPAMA Scholarship to Kathryn Brown at the UMAS closing banquet. 5. Newsletter trivia winner Devin Cole picked up his \$25 gift card in person at the UMAS Exhibitor Night!

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT GNS 400W/500W Series Update

In order to support future GNS 400W/500W series repairs, Garmin will be ending WAAS upgrades for non-WAAS GNS 400/500 series products on May 29, 2020. WAAS upgrade orders can still be placed up until this date, however units must be received by Garmin by June 30, 2020.

Repairs will be available for the non-WAAS 400/500 series 28v units with 16W COM Transmitter and all 14/28v non-WAAS 400/500-series units. These units will not be able to be eligible for the WAAS upgrade after May 29, 2020, but repairs will continue to be available after this date. If you have been thinking about an upgrade for equipment, now is the time to start asking questions.

If you have any questions about your Garmin equipment, please make sure to call me at 701.223.4754 or email at krish@bismarckaero.com.



The Tech Guy, Kris Hexom

To ensure the health and safety of our local community, the Mandan EAA Chapter 1008 has made the difficult decision to cancel the annual “Planes & Pancakes” event. We look forward to seeing you next summer!



Keeping Business Aviation’s Supply Chain Moving

By Scott Yantzer, BAC & MAC Aircraft Parts Manager

Recently, I was able to join a WebEx hosted by Aviation International News (AIN) focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on the business aviation supply chain and the industry’s response. We are all navigating uncharted waters, and this deeper understanding of the supply chain situation helps me better serve our clients. I wanted to share an overview to help you understand the challenges supply companies are experiencing, and how it can impact business.

As many organizations across the globe are experiencing, most supply chain companies are working with less than half of their staff as well. This is resulting in delayed shipping of existing stock parts. Taking it a step further, a great number of manufacturers are closed until further notice, causing a dwindling supply of certain parts.

While the supply is low and slow to ship, a positive is most companies are holding firm on their pricing, avoiding capitalizing on the situation and price gouging. Another interesting angle is some foreign manufacturers are delaying the shipping of parts in hopes it will cause the parts manufacturing to move to the U.S. in the future.

Overall, while the COVID-19 pandemic isn’t ideal, the business aviation industry has done its best to be responsive. Technology has been key – not only allowing various staff to work safely from home yet still be responsive to their clients’ needs – but also by bringing inventory into the cloud so it is manageable inside or outside an office setting.



TRIVIA

Every aviation buff knows of Orville and Wilbur Wright. However, do you know which mechanic made the first flight possible? Not only did he build the first successful aircraft engine, he was also the first airport manager and the first to investigate a powered flight accident. What was his name?

- A. Cal Rodgers
- B. Charlie Taylor
- C. Lt. Thomas Selfridge

Submit your answer by 5/29 for a chance to win a \$25 gift card! Contact Shae Helling at shaeh@bismarckaero.com.

The answer to our previous trivia question is A. The world's oldest airline, first established in 1919, is KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. Headquartered in Amstelveen Netherlands, the airline employs over 35,000 people and connects to over 500 destinations! Congratulations to Devin Cole, this quarter's Newsletter Trivia Winner!

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



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