



# Young Aviator Update

## February 2016

Happy New Year!

The YAs kicked off 2016 on January 9. There were a lot of new faces! It is going to be a great year! Meeting minutes can be viewed on the website under the history tab.

The Youth Leadership Committee was introduced at the meeting. Please welcome Holden Sherard, John Kellogg, and Brady McCay. Over the next year Brandon Leeper, the current youth president, will be preparing them for his departure to college. Holden is going to be coordinating projects with the adult mentors, John is overseeing education, and Brady will be communications/website. Since there is a lot of overlap, they will work closely to make sure that the website has all the events, work session, meetings, etc. available for everyone.

As a special addition to the meeting, the YAs were presented with a flag they received last December from Captain Tyler "Iron" McBride, Air Force F-16 pilot. Tyler flew an American flag dedicated to the Young Aviators in a combat mission over Afghanistan.





The self-proclaimed 'First Young Aviator' caught the aviation bug from Scott and Eric Serani back in 2005. With all of his spare time he helped them build an RV-10 in their garage and regularly would go poke holes in the sky with Eric and his Champ. Tyler has an amazing story of perseverance. A birth defect that resulted in the removal of one of his lungs couldn't stop him from achieving his dream of becoming a military fighter pilot. Read more about Tyler's inspiring story on our website. There is a link on the home page! [Youngaviators43.com](http://Youngaviators43.com)

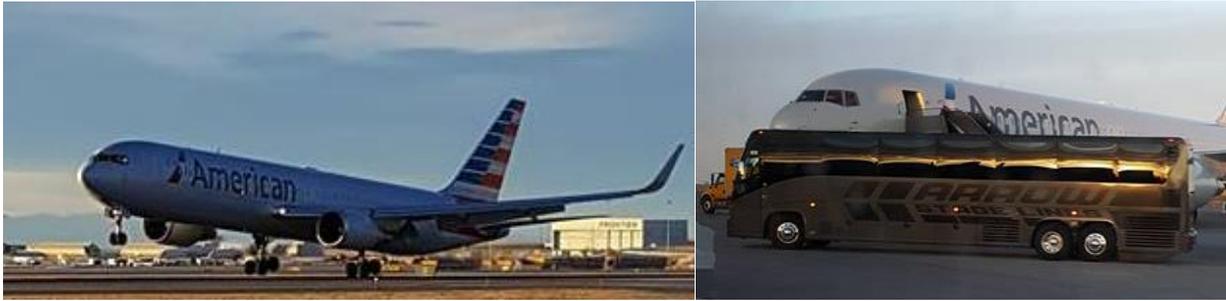
We will be holding the formal meeting every month at 9 a.m. on the first Saturday. Work sessions are going to be scheduled at different times per project, so watch the website and the email updates for details.

We had a special event in January for a small contingency of our crew. On the 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, we were taken on a 4 hour tour of the DIA grounds. Not only did we get to visit one of the five firehouses on the property, we were allowed in the main tower, we sat runway side and plane watched, and we also met two beautiful owls that had been trapped and were being relocated for aircraft (and their) safety. The kids are all writing a brief report of the day and have been posted to the website. Thank you, Scott Serani, for making it possible.



On a side note, the group that went on the 16<sup>th</sup> was able to watch the plane carrying the Pittsburgh Steelers land and be met by the charter buses. Definitely

something you don't see every day! Happily, they left with what promised to be a long, quiet ride back to the east coast. GO BRONCOS!!!!



We can still be contacted at the email address that we have been using but I am going to be changing my main contact email to [andrea@youngaviators43.com](mailto:andrea@youngaviators43.com) I will route any inquiries to the adult mentor or youth leader.

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