

## Flight Training

The Gallatin Eagles provides free flight training to club members. Training sessions are held every Tuesday at 5:00pm during our regular flying season. The first sessions for the year begin in May and run through September. Please note, this schedule is "weather dependent". We are fairly committed to the flight training program, but need to have reasonable weather. General guidelines: If it's actively raining (or snowing!), or if there is significant wind, we will not be there.

### Why is it important to learn to fly with an instructor?

Although it is -possible- to learn to fly a model airplane without instruction, the chance of success is infinitely better with assistance. An instructor can help you choose a suitable plane and support equipment. An instructor will make sure the plane is properly assembled and all controls functioning normally before the plane ever leaves the ground. And the instructor will make sure the plane is properly trimmed and flying normally. We use the "buddy box" method of training, where the student and instructors radios are linked together with a cord, or electronically with the newer radios. The instructor will choose when to give control of the plane to the student. If the student loses control of the plane, the instructor simply flips a switch to take over. This allows the student to safely progress their skills from level flight to turns, patterns, take-offs, and ultimately landing. Using an instructor gives the greatest chance of success, with minimal risk to the plane.

The model airplane is not a toy. The typical plane weighs 5-6 pounds and can travel at 60mph. If it goes out of control, it can cause serious injury or death. Learning to fly with an instructor will allow you to become a proficient pilot in the least amount of time, and with the least amount of risk to the plane or bystanders. Attempting to learn to fly on your own will usually result in a flight which lasts just a few seconds, followed by a crash and a demolished plane.

### **Head Instructor:**

Chuck Banta  
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585-1225

### **Alternate instructors:**

Stan Johnson  
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585-7541

Larry Nelson  
lnelson568@gmail.com  
599-4222

Brian Westberg  
fortedalloy@hotmail.com  
580-3834

You are welcome to drop by our field on any Tuesday during our training sessions to see what RC flying is all about. Note: Training can be done anytime, not just Tuesdays. Whatever schedule works best for you & your instructor.