

Kerrick Tweedy - Founder, Executive Director Service Oriented Aviation Readiness (S.O.A.R.)

In April 2011, Kerrick Tweedy, Founder and Executive Director of S.O.A.R. felt a very specific calling to begin a ministry to help out the shortage of mission pilot/mechanics by starting a low-cost training center at his home airport in Bolivar, MO.

Kerrick holds a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Business Administration from Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, MO. Kerrick had a 26 year career in insurance software development before the call to missions and on October 10, 2011, S.O.A.R. began business at the Bolivar Municipal Airport (M17) in Bolivar, MO.

Kerrick was added to the IAMA board of directors in May, 2014 and has been serving on the event planning team for both Sun 'n Fun and AirVenture for 2015.



About Service Oriented Aviation Readiness (S.O.A.R.)

Service Oriented Aviation Readiness (S.O.A.R.) is located in Bolivar, MO at the Bolivar Municipal Airport (M17). The primary purpose of S.O.A.R. is the training and education of aviation mechanics and pilots for mission aviation. Through its curriculum, programs, and supervised-experience training, students are prepared and qualified for the progression of testing and certifications. A distinctive attribute of S.O.A.R. is that the organization leverages an energized local pilot population and community engaged at a municipal airport to continue a "pay-it-forward" philosophy through which many of the previous generation of pilots were taught to fly.



As part of S.O.A.R.'s desire to offer low cost training to its students, S.O.A.R. also operates as the only Fixed Base Operator (FBO) at M17 which provides a public model for light general aviation aircraft maintenance, ground instruction and testing, flight instruction, aircraft rental, and an airport café. This public model allows us to supplement our revenue and provides aircraft for maintenance in our shop and opportunities for training and serving our customers.

S.O.A.R. is a relatively new organization in business since October, 2011. Since our inception we have seen God's hand guide and direct our growth in both ministry and mission. We currently have three students well on their way in the A&P/Pilot program. We have enjoyed plugging in and being part of the IAMA family with involvement in both the annual conference and with the IAMA tent at AirVenture and look for future opportunities to work with other IAMA family members.

S.O.A.R. has been attending AirVenture since 2012 where we have been recipients of the wonderful support of the MASA team and volunteers and enjoyed the company of our gracious hosts. We are extremely grateful for the ministry of MASA.

The best way to keep up with the happenings of S.O.A.R. is by following us on our website at <http://www.soar-m17.org> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SOAR.M17>.