

NORTH DAKOTA AVIATION HALL OF FAME

Leland Brand

Inducted: 1997



Leland Brand began flight instruction in the Civilian Training Program as a student at the North Dakota Agricultural College. He earned his private license and completed the cross-country instructor course and the secondary Civilian Pilot Training (CPT) course in aerobatics flying. In 1941, he was awarded his commercial license and instructor ratings.

Leland taught three classes of CPT secondary aerobatics from 1941-42 and from 1943-44 he was assigned to Minot, ND as a flight instructor in the Navy V5 Cadet program, flying J3 Cubs and N3N Trainers from 1943-44.

Over the years Leland has been involved in many areas of the aviation industry. He flew in air shows from 1946-50, was a flight instructor from 1942-66, held an air taxi 135 certificate from 1966-94, was a contract pilot for North Dakota Animal Damage Control for 30 years and has been an aerial applicator for 50 years. Leland was the first president of the North Dakota Flying Farmers when they organized in 1946.

When the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission was established in 1947 Leland was appointed to the commission. During the 15 years that he served on the commission, much of the first legislation supporting aviation was written, and many of the licensing, regulations and enforcement procedures were developed.

Leland Brand's aviation experience and dedication were real assets to the commission as they established many of the precedents for the future of aviation in North Dakota. He was active in developing and implementing regulations governing aerial applications and registration procedures for pilots and aircraft. During his time on the commission, two border crossing landing strips were built and coordinated with customs, the first aeronautical charts were researched, printed and distributed, and the airport authority act was passed.