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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

FAA

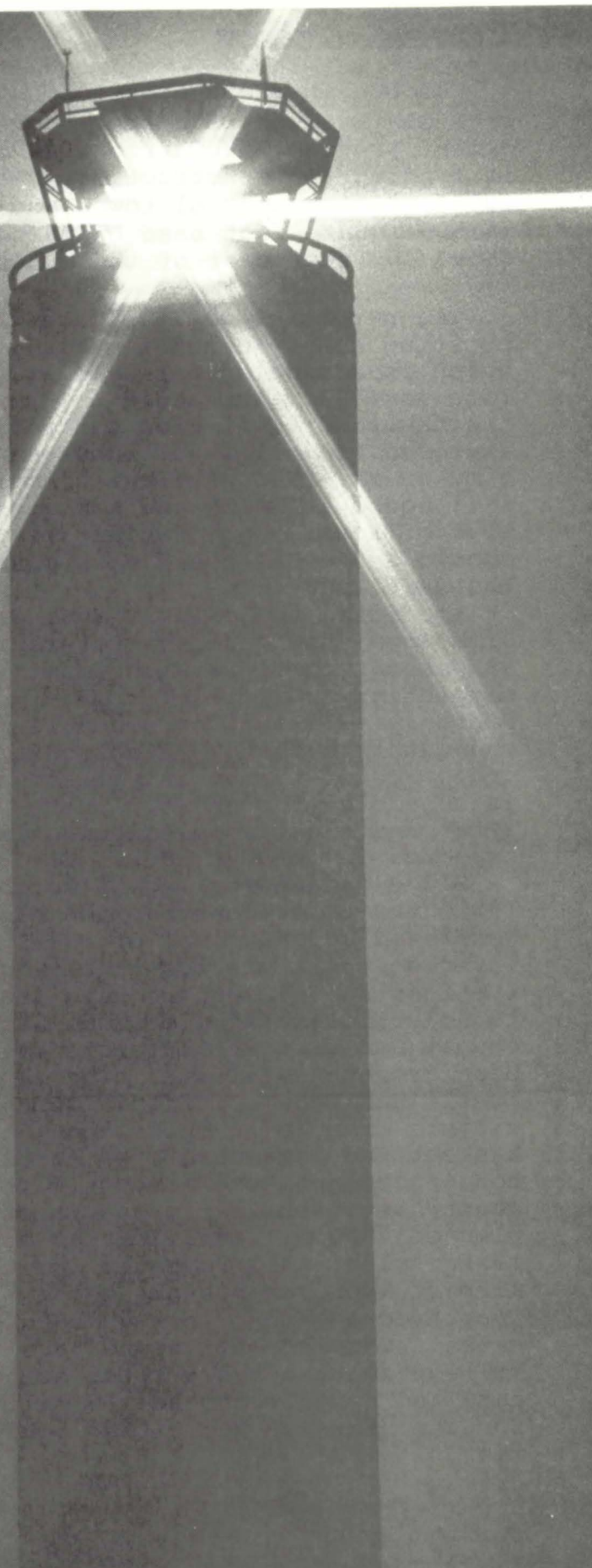
SERVING THOSE WHO FLY

Public Affairs Office
AWP-5
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Jan. 24, 1983

FAA
Western-Pacific Region
Los Angeles, CA 90009
(213) 536-6431

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Las Vegas
Tower - Tracon



Cover Story

The FAA in close cooperation with Clark County's airport development program, "McCarran 2000", is funding and constructing a new 200-foot high control tower and a 14,500-square-foot base building about 400 feet east of the existing tower.

The new tower will replace the existing county-owned facility, which is scheduled for demolition late in 1983. The added height of the new tower will give controllers improved visibility of runway and ramp areas. The base building will house a TRACON and administrative offices. Both facilities should serve FAA needs well past the year 2000.

According to Resident Engineer Dick Sowa, the basic structure is 95 percent complete with final completion scheduled for mid-February -- "Right on schedule and within budget". Electronic and computer system installation is scheduled for shortly thereafter and final commissioning is expected in October 1983.

Since groundbreaking in October 1981, the tower construction has generated a great deal of local interest. All the local television stations and newspapers have featured articles and pictures. Local county and airport officials have been frequent visitors. The tower itself has become quite a landmark, visible from 20-30 miles away, and has set the "standard" for further construction on the airport. The county is in the early stages of a planned \$800 million, 20-year master plan. All revenues for the airport improvements are being generated locally, through bond sales. The FAA will spend \$3.5 million for the basic tower structure and roughly another \$3 million for computer and supporting equipment.

BOSTON CENTER SAVES SAILORS

Boston Center personnel played a vital part in the rescue of five fishermen adrift in a storm-tossed life raft in the Atlantic Ocean recently. They were survivors of a 124-foot trawler that went down 90 miles off Cape Cod.

The Boston Center got into the act when Coast Guard efforts to direct two other trawlers to the accident scene were unsuccessful because of 30-foot seas and limited visibility. The center was requested by the Coast Guard to direct any available aircraft to the scene. It did so and then became the communications link between these search and rescue planes and the Coast Guard.

A Navy plane eventually spotted the sinking vessel and a nearby life raft and continued to circle the location until relieved by an Air Force C-130. Position reports were relayed through to the scene. Following the rescue, the Region I Coast Guard Commandant phoned New England Region Director Robert Whittington and asked him to express his appreciation to all involved FAA personnel for their quick thinking and positive action.

The tower and base building include a couple of "firsts" for the Western-Pacific Region that are worthy of note:

- First FAA-built Tower with fire sprinklers.
- First Uninterruptible Power System (battery backup), included with the original construction - not retrofitted.

Congratulations to all FAAers who have had a hand in this outstanding effort.

Cover Photo: This outstanding photo of the new Las Vegas Tower-TRACON was taken by John Katsigenis, Assistant Sector Manager, Las Vegas.

STU HALSEY
 RETIRES AFTER
 41 YEARS
 OF SERVICE



Stu Halsey, Air Traffic Plans and Programs Specialist, has retired from the agency with nearly 41 years of service. Stu joined the FAA/CAA in 1948 at the Salt Lake City Center, and most of his career was spent there as a controller and in management. In 1967, Stu became part of the agency's Management Training Program and spent a year at Syracuse University. He transferred to the Western-Pacific Region in 1968 at the Los Angeles Area Office. Later, he transferred to the Automation Staff in the Regional Office before coming to the Plans and Programs Branch in the Air Traffic Division. During his long career, Stu received many awards and letters of appreciation. He is now working for Hughes Aviation as a consultant in advanced Air Traffic Control programs. Stu's long service to the FAA will not soon be forgotten.

Top photo: Roy Richards (right), Manager, Air Traffic Plans and Programs Branch, "roasts" Stu Halsey at a coffee and cake send-off at Regional headquarters.

Middle: Among Stu's many friends attending the get-together were: From left--Charlie Aalfs, Ellie Stanton and Evelyn Carles.

Below: Stu Halsey and his wife, Dorothy greet the many well-wishers.



ACCOUNTING DIVISION AWARDS

Congratulations to Marion Stevenson, Accounting Technician in the Accounting Division, on receiving a Special Achievement Award for outstanding performance. Marion also received her 30-year service pin.... Sharon McIntosh, Accounting Technician, also received her 3-year pin.

MORE TOWERS REOPEN

Reflecting the continuing progress of the ATC rebuilding effort, the agency has reopened five more airport control towers that were temporarily closed after the controllers' strike. They are Lebanon, N.H.; Bloomington, Ind.; and New Bedford, Lawrence and Worchester, Mass. All resumed operations in early January. Two additional towers--Muncie, Ind., and Ann Arbor, Mich.--are scheduled to reopen on Feb. 7.

As of Jan. 10, the agency had reopened 34 control towers, including one that is being staffed by military personnel and another being operated on a contract basis under an FAA pilot program.

AIRWAY FACILITIES DIVISION AWARDS

Congratulations to the following who recently received awards:

RICHARD TAKAHASHI, AWP-465 (Honolulu) - Quality Increase Award; DAVID MILES and CHARLES CAGE, Oakland AFS - Quality Increase Awards with Outstanding ratings; WILLARD GALBRAITH, Red Bluff Sector - Special Achievement Award; Letters of Appreciation to: ROBERT ENDRES, Red Bluff AFS; DELORIS ANDERSON, EUGENE COLE and JERRY LONG, Oakland AFS; WAICHI TAKAKI, HENRY PILA, DALE KNEE, MIKE SCHNEIBLE, and DAN MEYERS, AWP-465 (Honolulu); and JERRY LONG AND EDWARD HARRIS - Administrator's Award for EEO Excellence.

LAS VEGAS AFS

The holiday season brought welcome news from JOE GILKISON, former Tonopah Field Office Manager who was on home leave from his position in Saudi Arabia with Bendix Corporation; JOHN FILON, former Maintenance Mechanic, Tonopah ESU, sent greetings from Balikesir, Turkey where he is with Boeing Service International; AL BEROTTI, maintenance mechanic who transferred to the Denver (Hub) Sector reported his going-away present of a warm jacket is most useful in Colorado. BILL BEYER, SPS, who transferred to the Academy is settled into his new location.....Best wishes to recent retirees JOHN MCCORDUCK and DALLAS KNOWLTON, Tonopah, and WES SLOCUM, Needles.....VANCE SAN FILIPPO is looking forward to his new assignment with FIFO in Frankfurt, Germany.....Congratulations to DAN MORAN, E.T., Tonopah Field Office on his promotion, and to ARDIS ROGERS who was promoted to Administrative Assistant.....Human Relations Week activities included a presentation by Mr. and Mrs. ART FERRARO, owner-managers of radio station KRRI-FM, Boulder City. The FERRAROS expressed their appreciation for the cooperation and assistance they received from sector personnel in getting started with their radio station. Following the presentation, Mr. and Mrs. WEBB hosted an all sector employee-spouse buffet luncheon. The six-foot-long sandwiches were viewed with awe as they were sliced and enjoyed by all.

FAA INTERCOM is published weekly for Western-Pacific Region employees of the Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration by the Public Affairs Office. Articles and black and white photographs should be sent to Barbara Abels, Editor, AWP-5, 213/536-6431 or FTS 966-6431.

THANKS FROM HANK

Hank Van Sant, Air Traffic Operations Specialist, AWP-542, and his wife, Jeanene, wish to thank their many FAA friends for the cards and well-wishes received during Hank's recent illness. Hank is now back on the job and doing just fine.

L.A. SHAKES OFF RESTRICTIONS

Another of the many milestones in the ATC recovery program was reached Jan. 10 when restrictions were lifted for flights within the Los Angeles enroute center area. It's the ninth center to drop these restrictions that were imposed after the controllers' strike. The others are the Seattle, Salt Lake City, Albuquerque, Washington, Jacksonville, Atlanta, Memphis and Kansas City centers. Next on the schedule are Miami and Denver with all 20 domestic centers due by the end of the summer.

In general, the actions apply only to flights within the center area and not to flights between center areas.

FAA'ERS BABY SEEKING

LIVER TRANSPLANT

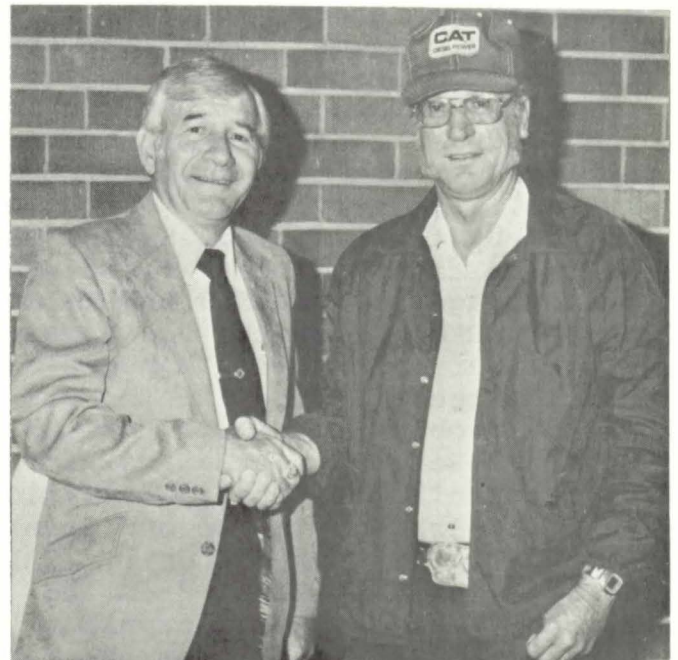
Elaine Railey, Administrative Services Clerk at Riverside Airway Facilities Sector, and her husband, Bill have taken their daughter, Jenny, to the University of Minnesota for evaluation and a probable liver transplant. Jenny was born with a rare liver condition called biliary artresia and without a transplant will not survive many more months. At seven months, she will be the youngest patient to have received a liver transplant. Due to recent publicity about a similar case (Jamie Fiske), doctors have been able to give Elaine and Bill hope that they can find a donor. Most of the some \$250,000 in medical bills will be covered by Elaine's health insurance through the FAA; however, they are facing months of living expenses, transportation, etc. A special fund to assist them has been set up through the Children's Liver Foundation and any FAA friends wishing to contribute may do so through Shirley Thompson, AWP-402. Tax deductible receipts will be mailed to those providing their name, address, and amount of contribution.

LAS VEGAS AFS CAREER

SERVICE EMBLEMS PRESENTED

Congratulations to the following Las Vegas Sector personnel who were recently presented Career Service Emblems: JAMES WEBB, Sector Manager - 35 years; RICHARD JACOBSON, Manager Angel Peak Field Office; ERNEST SCHMUCK and DALLAS KNOWLTON, Angel Peak Field Office; and JIM EMMET, Foreman of the Tonopah Road Crew - 25 years; WILLIAM CRAWFORD and ROBERT LOVE, Tonopah Field Office - 15 years.

Right photo: Jim Emmet (right) is congratulated by Assistant Sector Manager John Katsigenis for 25 years of service.



RETIREMENT PARTY FOR "SPENCE"

T. D. Spencer, Principal Operations Inspector at the Phoenix GADO, said adios to the FAA on Dec. 31, 1982 after more than 28 years of Federal service. A retirement party has been set for 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 28 at the Hungry Tiger Restaurant, 7301 East Butherus Dr., Scottsdale Airport, Arizona. If you plan to attend, please call Bob Kruse or Barbara at the GADO, 602/241-2561. Make checks payable to Robert L. Kruse.

CIVILAIR NEWS

Pick up your Mann Movie Tickets now. There is a \$2.50 discount on a \$5 ticket. The tickets are \$2.50 each and admit you to any Mann Movie Theatre, except the Westwood Theatre in Westwood. Pick up or send a self-addressed envelope to the Civilair desk: 15000 Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif. 90261. Tickets are good until June 30, 1983.

LIHUE TOWER (KAUAI, HAWAII) HI-LITES

Having survived the hurricane "Ewa" in one piece, we gratefully welcome two new trainees from the Academy - Steve Henley and John Jasinski. We also wish a true "Aloha" and Happy Retirement to Dick Bradley, our facility manager, who is leaving us on January 28 to return to Chico, Calif.

RETIREMENT PARTY FOR BOB CHILCOTT AND PAUL GISI

Everyone is invited to attend a joint retirement party for Bob Chilcott and Paul Gisi, Sunday, Jan. 30 at the Alameda Officers' Club, 7:15 p.m. No host cocktail hour is 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. The banquet buffet is \$12.50 including tax, tip and gifts. RSVP by Jan. 26 to Oliver Wiita, FTS 536-7955, 415/273-7955. Make checks payable to Oliver Wiita.

LAS VEGAS AFS AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector personnel who were recently presented Letters of Appreciation: MARK BARNES, Angel Peak Field Office, from Manager, Establishment Engineering Branch, AWP-450, for providing invaluable inputs during the alignment and checkout of the Nellis/Apex one-of-a-kind TML/VDM system. The letter was further endorsed by the Las Vegas Sector Manager and the Angel Peak Field Office Manager.....BERNIE PADGET and WOODY HARKCOM from the Las Vegas Flight Service Station Manager for work on the air conditioning ventilation problem.....WOODY HARKCOM from the Reno Sector Manager for assistance in the pre-installation Phase I work for the Second Generation VORTAC at Lake Tahoe.....CAL GILLIAM and BILL BEYER from the Manager, Maintenance Operations Branch, AWP-460, and from the Mana-

ger, McClellan ARTS Field Office endorsed by the Sacramento Sector Manager and the Air Traffic Facility Manager for their assistance in the timely resolution of a problem at the McClellan ARTS III facility. Both letters were further endorsed by the Las Vegas Sector Manager.... Also received was a letter from the Manager, Navaids/Communications Engineering Division, AAF-400, stating the AAF Division was impressed with the innovative approach by Las Vegas and Reno Sectors in updating the grounding systems for VORTAC and RCAG sites and they were sending copies of the INTERCOM article to all Airway Facilities Division Chiefs. The letter was endorsed by the Manager, Airway Facilities Division, AWP-400 and further endorsed by the Las Vegas Sector Manager to all sector units and field offices.

CONCORD SECTOR FIELD OFFICE
QUALITY CIRCLE RECEIVES
NATIONAL RECOGNITION



The Concord AF Sector Field Office Quality Circle: From left-- Ettore Milani (QC Leader), John Smith, Francis Osgood, Maurice Swetzer, Bob Leone and Arlie Lloyd.

Arleigh Lloyd, Concord SFO QC member, proudly displays their QC project on the use of test equipment.

In October of 1981, the Concord Airway Facilities Sector Field Office of the Oakland Airway Facilities Sector organized a Quality Circle with all of its six members volunteering to participate. Since then, the members have identified, analyzed and resolved many work-related problems which were adversely affecting their worklife.

In June 1982, the Concord office produced a video tape on the savings and efficiency realized on tools and test equipment. Since these Quality Circle projects can

impact AFS facilities nationwide, the Concord QC presentations are being studied by all FAA regions.

FAA Administrator J. Lynn Helms recently recommended that the "Concord Tape" be viewed by all FAA personnel as an example of how management and employees can work together to resolve work-related problems.

The Concord Sector Field Office Quality Circle was trained by Eugene Cole, Nav/Comm, Concord SFO, and QC Facilitator of the Oakland AFS.

No
REST
IN
SEATTLE

Anyone who thinks the Northwest Mountain Region is resting on its laurels after the recent certification of the Boeing 767 and 757 should think again. Regional Director Charles R. "Chuck" Foster points out that his staff is pursuing a range of certification projects, including approval of a new Boeing 747-300 with an extended upper deck and new Pratt & Whitney engines. Certification action on that aircraft is scheduled for next month.

Foster said that many people mistakenly view the issuance of a type certificate as an end of a process when it really is only an important milestone in a continuing process. For example, he noted that all aircraft types generally evolve through a number of different versions, each of which requires a separate certificate action.

In addition to the new Boeing 747 version, the region currently is working on approvals of a new 727 freighter model, a new stretched 737-300 with high-bypass engines, a 757-200 with new Pratt & Whitney 2037 fly-by-wire engines and a heavier version of the 767-200.

Among the foreign aircraft being evaluated for a U.S. type certificate are the British BAC 146 commuter aircraft, Spanish CASA-CN-235 commuter plane, Israeli Westwind 1125 business jet, DeHavilland DHC-8 turboprop commuter, Saab-Scania turboprop commuter, Brazilian Embraer EMB-120 "Brasilia" commuter and the French-Italian ATR-42 commuter.

Finally, there are the region's regulatory responsibilities, including the issuance of Airworthiness Directives, in fulfilling its role as the agency's Transport Airplane Certification Directorate.

AEA Honors 'Nam' Vet

The Eastern Region has named its headquarters building at JFK International Airport for a Marine Corps pilot who died in Vietnam more than a decade ago. The building--previously called simply the "Federal Building"--now bears the name of Major Robert M. Fitzgerald, a much-decorated New York native, who was killed during a helicopter rescue mission in 1970.

GOOD SAFETY NEWS OUTWEIGHS BAD

There was more sunshine than rain in the 1982 accident statistics released earlier this month by the National Transportation Safety Board. Commuter airlines posted the best safety record in the eight years for which statistics on this segment are available, and on-demand air taxis had the second best record in that eight-year period.

Meanwhile, general aviation experienced the lowest number of fatal accidents and fatalities in the last decade. The only discordant note was struck by the large air carriers which saw their streak of 26 straight months without a fatal jetliner accident come to an end.

The commuters had four fatal accidents and 13 fatalities last year as compared with 10 and 36 in 1981. The figures for on-demand air taxis show fatal crashes down from 39 to 32 and fatalities from 92 to 75. The drop in general aviation accidents outstripped the slight dip in activity levels with the result that both the total and fatal accident rates per 100,000 aircraft hours continued to decline. The 574 fatal accidents last year compared with 657 in 1981, whereas fatalities dropped from 1,288 to 1,164.

Air carriers operating large aircraft had five fatal accidents in 1982, including the jetliner crashes at Washington, Boston and New Orleans. Fatalities totalled 235.

WEATHER REPORTING SYSTEMS TO BE DEMONSTRATED

This June the agency will begin a year-long demonstration of automated weather sensing and reporting equipment at 21 airports from Florida to Alaska. The demonstration is part of a major FAA effort to upgrade the availability of weather services provided to pilots. This is in line with the provisions of the National Airspace System (NAS) Plan.

Once the weather equipment has been proved in the field, the agency plans to install it at some 700 airports beginning in 1986. Known as the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS), the equipment automatically gathers weather data from various locations around an airport and transmits it directly to pilots by means of computer-generated voice messages. These messages include information about such items as wind,

temperature, dewpoint, visibility, sky conditions and ceiling and altimeter setting.

The purpose of the demonstration is to assess the reliability and effectiveness of the AWOS units under all environmental and climatic conditions. It also will develop operational data that will be used in drafting production specifications for the equipment.

The 21 demonstration systems were manufactured by three different manufacturers under contracts that totalled \$1.9 million. The companies involved were: Cardion Electronics of Holtsville, N.Y.; Artais, Inc. of Columbus, Ohio; and Weathermeasures Corp. of North Highlands, Calif. Each manufacturer is supplying seven systems, all of which are scheduled to be delivered in June.

RETIREMENT/GOING AWAY DINNER FOR PILCHER AND ALBRIGHT



The Oakland Tower is holding a joint retirement/going away dinner for two of their favorite people: Lewis R. Pilcher, who recently retired, and John F. Albright, Jr., who has been promoted to San Diego TRACON. The facility poet has taken this occasion to take pen in hand and has come up with the following tribute:

"Uncle Lew is retiring, yes it's a fact. Martinis and golf clubs will be his next act. Cessna and Cherokees can all go to h---, come to the party to wish him well! Albright, Albright, oh what a guy. When he's working no one will fly. Beauregard, Beauregard, oh what a dog, he's so cute as a button and sleeps like a log. Come to a party to bid them goodbye, there will be good food and drinks that will make you fly!"
(Beauregard is John's basset hound.)

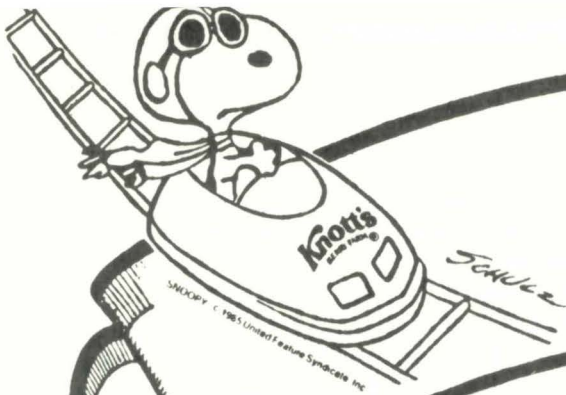
PLACE: H's Lordships Restaurant
199 Seawall Drive
Berkeley, California 94710

TIME: No host cocktails 6:30 p.m.
Dinner 8:00 p.m.

DATE: Friday, February 4, 1983

RSVP: Jan. 26 to Yvette Sharp, Oakland Tower,
FTS: 536-7418





FAA Family Fundays

Saturday, February 19, 1983
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight

or

Sunday, February 20, 1983
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight

or

Monday, February 21, 1983
10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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