



US Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific Intercom



FAA ASSISTS NASA

COVER STORY...

Jack Knoebber, Principal Airworthiness Inspector at the Van Nuys General Aviation District Office, was recently involved in the certification of NASA's Shuttle Carrier Aircraft, a Boeing 747. The FAA was requested by NASA Space Center in Houston, Texas, to certificate the aircraft in the experimental-exhibition category in order that the United States could participate in the Paris Air Show carrying the Space Shuttle Enterprise. Both England and France required that an FAA Airworthiness Certificate be issued to allow the U. S. registered aircraft to fly in their countries. Inspector Knoebber completed the certification and presented the airworthiness certificate to NASA in plenty of time for the aircraft to participate in the Paris Air Show.

Cover photo: Jack Knoebber (second from right) presents Airworthiness Certificate to NASA's Flight Engineer, Skip Guidry. At the right is Tom McMurty, Chief Pilot at NASA's Dryden Flight Center. Standing at the left are: Pete Seidle, Ser-Air Site Manager, and Mike Hill, Boeing Site Manager.



Instrument Ratings Pushed

In an effort to reduce the number of weather-related accidents in general aviation, the agency has issued a proposed rule designed to encourage early instrument training by private pilots.

The proposal would accomplish this objective by lowering the minimum flight-time requirement for an instrument rating from 200 to 100 hours and the pilot-in-command time from 100 to 75 hours. The requirement that pilots must have a commercial license to receive an instrument rating also would be dropped.

FAA said the present 200-hour requirement is a disincentive to early instrument training, since many pilots tend to put it off until they have accumulated 150-160 hours of flight time.

The agency supported its argument with statistics showing that a large percentage of weather-related accidents involve pilots with fewer than 200 hours and little or no instrument training. For example, a review of 5,200 nonfatal weather accidents in a recent 10-year period revealed that 83 percent involved pilots with less than 100 hours of flight experience.

EEO Figures Up

FAA is doing quite a bit better this year in the selection of women and minorities for managerial and supervisory positions. During the first six months of FY 1983, they accounted for 22 percent of all managers and supervisors selected in FAA. That's up seven percent from FY 1982. The Alaskan, Central and Southwest Regions made particular gains in the promotion of minorities and women.

Arizona Pilot Wins \$60,000 Aircraft In GAMA Safe Pilot Sweepstakes Program

At the Phoenix GADO's Quarterly Pilots' Safety Seminar, Roger Jones, 43, of Mesa, Arizona, won a \$60,000 aircraft of his choice in the nationwide GAMA Safe Pilot Sweepstakes Program. Jones was one of 175,751 pilots across the country who attended an FAA Safety Seminar promoted by GAMA to become eligible for the sweepstakes. Over 4,300 pilot entries were received from the Phoenix, Arizona, area alone.

The 1982 SAFE PILOT winner is a quality assurance technician who inspects electronic components known as semi-conductors for the Motorola Corporation in Phoenix. Holding a commercial pilot certificate with instrument rating and 600 flight hours, Jones is also a flight instructor with Academy Flyers, a local flying club. He earned his pilot license in 1978 and has attended safety seminars for the last five years including five seminars in 1982 alone. He's also an avid amateur radio enthusiast.

The Quarterly Seminar was held at the Madison School #1 Auditorium, 5525 N. 16th St., Phoenix, Arizona, and attended by 336 pilots.

Above: Don Judd, Accident Prevention Specialist, kicks off the Quarterly FAA Safety Seminar in Phoenix, Arizona.

Below: Mr. Ivan Speer (right), Garrett Corp. Group Vice-President, Los Angeles, and member of GAMA Board of Directors, awards the \$60,000 airplane to Roger Jones of Mesa, Arizona.



YOU ARE UNIQUE

STAY ALIVE WITH SAFETY

Virginia Broom Retires Leaves FAA a Gift

FAA personnel, including many retirees, gathered at a luncheon for Virginia Broom to wish her a happy retirement. Virginia's grand finale was the gift of a poem she wrote entitled "My Retirement".

"To all:

If this is the happy moment I
have been looking forward to for
years,

Why am I standing here with my
eyes so filled with tears?

Everyone says 'I am going to
retire some day.'

I did -- and I retired the 31st
of May! My career began in '52--

A lot of years, yet seems so
few. I have traveled a lot for
Uncle Sam

To Alaska, Hawaii and far
Japan--and collected things as I
went through,

Jade, gold, ivory, and yes,
memories too. But the best col-
lection of them all

Was when I collected husband
Paul! As I end my tour with the
FAA

There are a lot of things I
would like to say. This door of
my life is closing, that is true;

Another opens with a beautiful
view. I will miss you all that
I know--

My memories will last wherever
I go. Thank you much for being
here--

Friends like you are very dear.
God bless you all."

Thank you, Virginia. Your FAA
family wishes you a long and happy
retirement!



Another First

The Flight Standards Division has scored a "first" to the best of our knowledge in the selection of Betty Miller as an Airspace System Inspection Pilot in the Flight Inspection and Procedures Staff in the region. Betty recently transferred from the Long Beach Flight Standards District Office where she was an Operations Inspector.

Betty is internationally known in the field of aviation, having made the first solo flight from California to Australia by a woman in a Piper Apache. She was given the FAA Exceptional Service Award for this feat and personally congratulated by then U. S. President John F. Kennedy. She and her husband, Chuck Miller, have both delivered aircraft overseas on numerous occasions.

Betty has served on the FAA Women's Advisory Committee for Aviation and is a member of the international organization of women pilots, the 99's. She is also helicopter qualified and a member of the Whirly-Girls, a worldwide organization of women helicopter pilots.



Civilair Picnic News

The FAA Picnic date has been set for August 20 and lots of activities are planned. We need volunteers to help plan the activities and to work at the picnic (serving food, helping with games, etc.). In order to be successful, we need everyone's help -- please donate some time to this fun activity. We would hate to have to cancel this event for lack of volunteers. Please contact your Civilair Representative; Mary Ann Presson, X6178; or Carl McGee, Los Angeles AFS, 642-5030.

Montgomery Tower Scholars

On June 21, at Montgomery Tower in San Diego, Sandra Elwood, Assistant Dean of Students at National University, presented scholarships to Controllers Eugene Donovan and Karen Heyman for their leadership and dedication within the FAA. Both controllers have enrolled at National and are taking courses geared towards Aviation Management. These scholarships were a result of the recommendation of Area Supervisor Jesse Cookson, in conjunction with National University's scholarship program.



Above photo: From left--Jesse Cookson, Karen Heyman, Eugene Donovan and Sandra Elwood.



"FAA World" Well Populated

Keeping in mind that people are FAA and vice versa, the latest FAA World features a post-strike controller at the N.Y. center who says "I like my job," an Aeronautical Center safety inspector who turned out to be one aviation writer's "most unforgettable character," a Dulles firefighter who built a scale model of the airport on his own time for use in training exercises, the agency's airports chief who bares the story of his greatest love (a Cessna L-19 "Bird Dog"), the Albany (N.Y.) GADO manager who was cited for heroism, and the whole, award-winning A.F. gang at the N.Y. TRACON. Then, too, there is the cover story that tries to answer the question of whether helicopters are really coming of age. Read every word. There may be questions later.

ASAS Program Threatened

The Administrator has told Congress that a recent General Accounting Office policy reversal could cause a two- to four-year delay in the implementation of the agency's Aviation Safety Analysis System (ASAS) for automating the flow of critical maintenance and operational data to the field.

Testifying before a Congressional subcommittee, he said GAO in 1981 had disallowed a vendor's protest and, thus, given FAA a green light to proceed with lease/purchase of nine computer systems that would tie Washington, regional and center headquarters into the ASAS. Now, he added, GAO has reversed its position and recommends cancellation of the contract and termination of the procurement. FAA has asked GAO to reconsider its position.

Agency Moves to Improve Aircraft Fire Safety

FAA expects to begin rule-making action by the end of the month to require more flame-resistant passenger seats and better emergency lighting systems on airline aircraft.

In testimony before a Congressional subcommittee on June 27, the Administrator announced that the agency will issue a notice of proposed rule making (NPRM) within 30 days that would require the airlines to use passenger seats that have a fire-blocking layer around the normal foam cushion material. The following day, he told reporters at a Technical Center briefing that the agency also expects to issue an NPRM by July 30 that would require new floor-level emergency lighting systems to guide passengers out of a smoke-filled airliner during an emergency evacuation.

During the day-long briefing, which covered all aspects of FAA's comprehensive crashworthiness and fire safety program, he also provided NPRM target dates for other key program elements. These included cargo compartment fire protection (fall 1983), seat/restraint systems (late 1984), anti-misting kerosene (late 1984) and cabin interior materials (late 1984).

The Administrator said the implementation of the various program elements "would result in the most dramatic improvement in airline safety in a quarter of a century." Moreover, he added, we can expect to see a "spillover of these advances to general aviation aircraft."

But the agency's first priority is the NPRM on fire-blocking layers since burning passenger seats pose the greatest hazard in aircraft fires. Use of the blocking layers would make the seats more difficult to burn and delay the critical "flashover" point by 40-60 seconds. Flashover is the point where flam-

mable vapors trapped high up towards the ceiling of the cabin will suddenly ignite and propagate the fire the length of the cabin like a wave.

Experiments to date have shown an aluminized fabric to be the most promising candidate for the blocking layer in terms of protection, weight and cost. Best estimates are that the material would cost between \$3-\$7 per seat and weigh less than two pounds.

Development work on blocking layers began more than two years ago and was completed in late May, before the Air Canada accident at Cincinnati. Consequently, the Administrator emphasized to both Congress and the news media that the NPRM on blocking layers is not a reaction to that accident but follows the agency's original schedule.



THE VOICE

The Training Branch is looking for that special quality that very few people have. With the increased emphasis on better communications, we are in need of narrators for the video programs being developed in the regional studio. Anyone seriously interested should contact Jerry Perkins, X6220, for an audition.

Flight Standards Division Awards

Congratulations to the following employees who have recently received awards: Outstanding with Quality Increase Award - ROBERT SANCHEZ, Oakland FSDO; Outstanding with Special Achievement Award - YOLANDA SALINAS, Van Nuys GADO; Special Achievement Award - VICTORIA THOMAS, Los Angeles FSDO; Letters of Commendation - NORMAN MECKLENBURG, Phoenix FSDO; THOMAS BLATZ, Phoenix FSDO; JOHN NOEL, Phoenix FSDO; JAMES POLHAMUS, Phoenix FSDO; Letters of Appreciation - JACK HOCKER, San Jose GADO; JOHN HULL, San Diego GADO; VINCENT BROPHY, Van Nuys GADO; THOMAS WESTALL, AWP-205; ROBERT GALLIMORE, AWP-220; WILLIAM "SWEDE" GAMBLE, ROBERT GRISCOM and SCOTT CROSIER, San Diego GADO; Career Service Emblems - 15 years: THOMAS WESTALL, AWP-205; SALVATORE CULTRERA, San Francisco ACDO; SUSIE SANTOS, Van Nuys GADO; and CLIFFORD GIBBONS, Oakland FSDO; 25 years: YOLANDA SALINAS, Van Nuys GADO; JEAN GANIKO, Honolulu FSDO; DOUGLAS HOWARD and CHARLES WEIDMAN, Los Angeles FSDO; 30 years: ROBERT BEAL and FRED MAU, Honolulu FSDO; 35 years: HARVEY FERER, AWP-220; 40 years: FRANK WALLEY, Honolulu FSDO.

San Francisco Tower Honors Four With Special Achievement Awards



Jack Ryan, Air Traffic Manager, San Francisco Tower, recently presented Special Achievement Awards to Bob Anolin, Area Supervisor; James McClenahen, Area Supervisor; R. Q. Simmons, Air Traffic Control Specialist; and Anthony Stas, Air Traffic Control Specialist. Congratulations to all!

Photo: From left--Jack Ryan, Bob Anolin, James McClenahen, R. Q. Simmons and Anthony Stas.



William Gross Receives Award

William Gross (right), Electronics Technician (Radar) at the Fallon, Nevada ARSR, was recently presented a Quality Increase Award for outstanding performance from Dean DeShazo, Reno Airway Facilities Sector Manager. Congratulations!

News in Brief

● Just in case any FAA employee overlooked the fact, we might point out that his/her take home pay went up recently. The reason for that was the implementation of the third and final reduction in federal income tax withholding authorized by the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981. Although it is commonly referred to as a 10 percent reduction, the actual percentage varies based on the new rates and tables prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service. But, then, most FAAers already have figured that out.

● And the House of Representatives has voted to keep those pay checks coming in FY 1984 by approving a \$4.7 billion appropriation for the agency. Included in that amount is \$2.6 billion for operations, \$985 million for facilities and equipment, and \$278 million for research and development. Also included is \$900 million in new contract authority for the Airport Improvement Program. The appropriations bill now goes to the Senate for consideration and action.

● The Southwest Region has picked Fort Worth's Meacham Field as the location of the automated flight service station that will serve 128 counties in north Texas. It's the 25th site selected by the agency in a planned network of 61 automated facilities. Commissioning of the automated FSS, which is being built by the City of Fort Worth under a lease arrangement, is set for early 1987.



Roger Johnston

The many friends and co-workers of Roger Johnston, Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist at Oakland Center, were saddened to learn of his death on May 17 of heart failure. Roger is survived by his wife, a daughter and a son. Condolences may be sent to his family at 1901 Nelson Drive, Santa Clara, CA 95050.

Charles Nafus

We are saddened to report that Charles Nafus, retired Radar Technician, recently passed away in Las Vegas, Nevada, where he had lived since 1972. He is survived by his wife, Frances, and sister, Mildred Agnish. Condolences may be sent to Frances Nafus at 721 Palmhurst Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89128.

Michael Thomas

Our deep sympathy is extended to Isabel Thomas on the loss of her husband, Michael, who passed away in his sleep on July 6. Isabel is retired from the Aviation Medical Division. Expressions of sympathy may be addressed to her at 5085 Silver Arrow Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

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.

Lancaster FSS Happenings

Lancaster FSS welcomes two new developmentals, Doug Dorow and Suzanne Foster. Suzanne was formerly a cartographer at the Los Angeles Center in Palmdale. They will be training under Lancaster's first Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist, Bill "Fuzzy Bear" Ford. Bill was also awarded with a Certificate of Appreciation by the China Lake Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol for his assistance in a weather presentation.....We say good-

bye to two of our outstanding journeymen, Mark Clair and Deborah Wood, who were selected for positions at the Lancaster Tower and Palmdale TowerWelcome back to Bob Garcia who has returned to work after a long absence, due to a near fatal motorcycle accident.....Congratulations are in order for Steve Parkin, Bernie Condon, and Paul Lauer. Steve received a Quality Increase Award, Bernie was presented a Special Achievement Award and Paul received the greatest gift of all - his wife, Valerie, presented him with a bouncing baby boy. Congratulations to all!

Above photo: From left--Suzanne Foster, Doug Dorow and Bill Ford.



News From Chino Tower

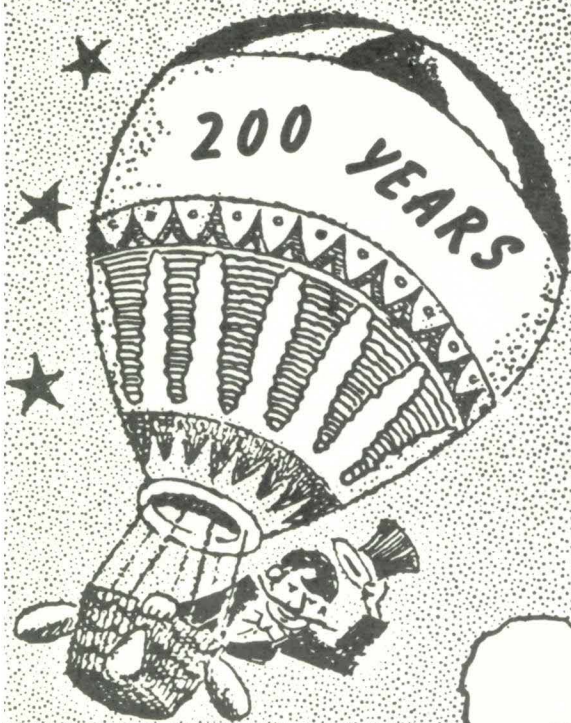
Due to the excellent service provided by the Chino Tower personnel, the annual Chino Air Show, May 14 and 15, was an outstanding success. The airport hosted more than 45,000 persons and 300 itinerant aircraft during the two-day affair. Tower personnel received numerous compliments from both air show participants and spectators regarding their ability to extend extra service to the users even during the very heavy traffic.

Letters of Appreciation from Jim Welton, Manager, Chino ATCT were presented to Wanda Boyle, Farol Cilluffo, Royce Hutcherson, Steven Morris, Tom Komer, Paul Khatcherian, Peter Elmore, Philip Soehl, and Edward Stone for their excellent performance.

ACR Gets Outside Help

The headquarters Office of Civil Rights has picked up a summer employee who is not your usual summer employee. She is Dr. Edyth B. Cole, chairperson of the Department of Education and Psychology at Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina.

Dr. Cole's assignment this summer will be to assist FAA in strengthening its Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program. Established government-wide by a Presidential order, this program is aimed at improving the capabilities of historically black schools to participate in Federal programs, such as research projects, co-op educational efforts and the like.



We have received many calls from the field facilities concerning their inability to meet the deadline on our AIR & SPACE BICENTENNIAL DRAWING CONTEST. The drawing contest for children, grandchildren and family members of Western-Pacific FAAers has been extended and all drawings (8½ x 11") must now be received by the Public Affairs Office, AWP-5, no later than August 1. Participants must be no older than twelve years of age.

The subject of the drawing can be anything that depicts progress in aviation or the Bicentennial of Air and Space.

Please print participant's name, address, age, and the name of related FAAer, on the back of drawing. Winners will be announced at the CIVILAIR Picnic, August 20.



**AIR & SPACE
BICENTENNIAL
DRAWING CONTEST**