

83-40
Oct. 10, 1983

Public Affairs Office
AWP-5

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



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific Intercom



**Aerobatic
Safety**

6196

Cover Story

The San Jose General Aviation District Office recently sponsored the annual Aerobatic Seminar hosted by Christen Industries, Hollister, Calif. Mr. Frank Christensen, owner of Christensen Industries, has made his facilities available to the FAA in the interest of aerobatic safety for the past 11 years. The facilities include a 3000-foot paved runway, an aerobatic practice area and limited space for aircraft parking for aerobatic pilots attending.

In the past years personnel from the Fresno General Aviation District Office and Oakland Flight Standards District Office have participated in this safety program.

During this particular seminar, Mr. Wes Ament, a well-known Northern California aerobatic pilot and retired airline captain, discussed Density Altitude and how it affects the air show pilot and his aerobatic performance. Ms. Brigitte de Saint Phalle, one of this country's leading aerobatic pilots and a member of the 1982 U.S. Aerobatic Team spoke on competition aerobatics. Gerry Pennington, Supervisor of the Operations Unit at San Jose GADO presented the FAA's role at Aerobatic Airshows. Frank Christensen discussed the new Airshow Aerobatic Pilot, Spins, Airshow Performance Planning and the Aresti Cryptographic System. He also explained in depth the entries and recoveries from all types of spins: upright normal and flat spins; inverted normal and flat spins. At the conclusion of his discussion, John Christensen (Frank's 19-year-old son) demonstrated the entry to and recovery from the most infamous of all spins "the inverted flat spin" in a Christen Eagle II.

Chuck Panos, Manager of the San Jose GADO, feels that through the efforts of Mr. Christensen and his

collaboration with the San Jose GADO in presenting these seminars there has been a definite improvement in the safety record of the sport aerobatic pilot in Northern California.

The seminar has become an annual event at Christensen's Ranch Airport and is necessarily limited to aerobatic pilots because of the limited aircraft parking space available. Invitations are normally sent a month in advance to those known aerobatic pilots within San Jose and the two districts adjacent to San Jose GADO. One aircraft and aerobatic pilot came from as far away as Eureka, Calif. to attend.

At the conclusion of this year's program, Gerry Pennington presented Mr. Christensen with a Certificate of Competency as an Accident Prevention Counselor.

Cover photo: The Eagles Aerobatic Flight Team in action. The team takes its name from the airplanes it flies: three perfectly matched Christen Eagle I sport biplanes. This capable unlimited-category aircraft is powered by a 260 hp Lycoming engine and it performs at a weight of 1262 pounds. With its distinctive "Eagle" emblem as part of each airplane's dramatic paint design, the team and their Eagle I's have thrilled airshow audiences with one of the most popular formation aerobatic performances. Photo courtesy of Christen Industries, Inc.



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.

Christensen's Aerobatic Seminar



Aerobatic pilots show off their beauties:

A--Ken Dehmer and his Pitts S-1.

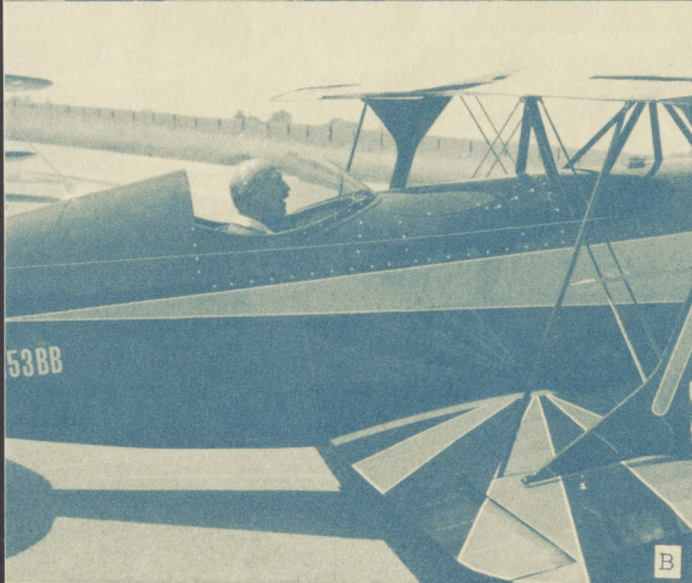
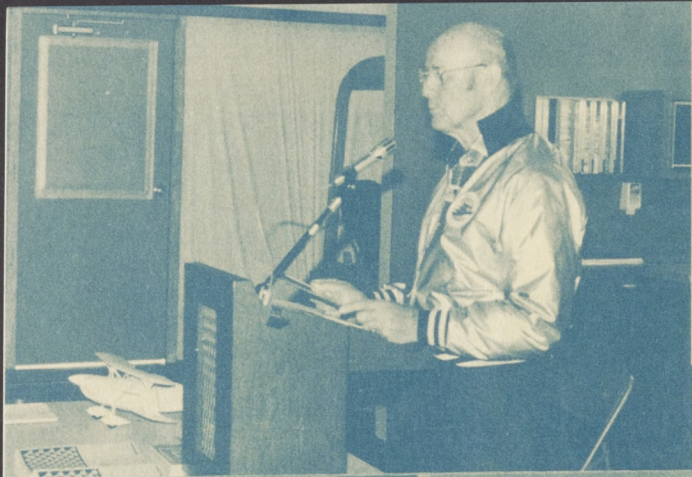
B--Brigette de Saint Phalle's Pitts and sister aircraft.

C--James Bon Shumaker and a Great Lakes aircraft.

D--Jeff Weller and his Pitts S-2.

Photos by Gerald Pennington.

More Aerobatic Seminar



A--Safety Seminar speakers: Wes Ament (top), Brigette de Saint Phalle (left) and Gary Burkett.
 B--Bob Blackwood in his Pitts.
 C--Gerry Pennington (left), San Jose GADO, presents Frank Christensen with his Accident Prevention Counselor's Certificate.
 D--John Christensen, Frank's son, prepares for his flight in the Christen Eagle.
 E--Ted Anderson, from Eureka, in his Eagle.
 Photos by Gerald L. Pennington.

FAA Picks Demonstration

Helicopter Locations

FAA has selected New York, New Orleans, Indianapolis and Los Angeles as the four participants in its National Prototype Demonstration Helicopter Program.

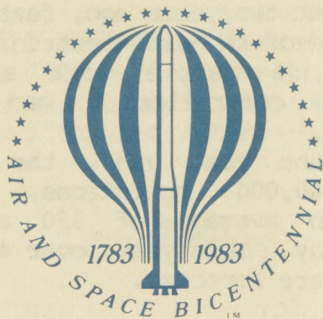
In announcing the selections, FAA Administrator Helms said the demonstration program is the first step toward the establishment of a nationwide network of downtown urban heliports equipped for all weather heliports operations. He noted that the agency's Rotorcraft Master Plan envisions a system of 25 such facilities by the year 2000.

FAA plans to support the development of the prototype heliports at all four locations with funding under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). The agency also will equip them with the latest new technology flight aids, including the microwave landing system and automated weather reporting systems.

The heliports at New Orleans and Los Angeles will be entirely new facilities. AIP funding of the New Orleans heliport already has been approved.

New York and Indianapolis will use existing sites. However, these facilities will be substantially upgraded to meet the program objectives.

The evolution of the prototype heliports from VFR-only to full precision-approach IFR capability will be made over a five-year period. The evaluation of new technologies intended to be applied at these locations will be tested first at the FAA Technical Center.



Pay Cut Put Off

The White House has announced it will support the legislation recently passed by the House of Representatives, which will put off the October 1 Federal "bookkeeping" pay cut until January 1, 1984.

If the legislation is passed by the Senate and signed by the President, the pay cut will become effective at the same time as the scheduled salary increase. This means that Federal workers will get a slightly smaller pay increase but no pay cut.

The bookkeeping change more accurately computes the average number of working days per year. Being added into the computation is the 365th day of the year and February 29 on leap year. Currently, Federal employees' salaries are computed on the basis of a 52-week or 364-day year.

The change alters hourly pay rates, which, in turn, slightly reduces bi-weekly salary checks.

Management Improved

As a result of recent initiatives by the Reagan Administration to strengthen the safeguarding and management of government resources, the FAA Administrator and all other government agency heads must now sign an annual statement certifying the status of their internal control systems.

The FAA statement will be submitted first to the Secretary of Transportation and then, as part of the DOT statement, to the President. In endorsing this effort and requesting the support of all employees, the Administrator said, "I want you to know I am a great believer in effective internal controls. Private industry can not survive without good controls, and the same should be applicable to the Government."

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circular outlining the strengthened security programs is A-123. At FAA, the Office of Management Systems (AMS) is responsible for implementing these programs.

Phocus On Phoenix

James Cambier, Electronics Technician (TID), recently returned from a 60-day detail to the Regional Office, AWP-406.....Floyd Howerton, Electronics Technician (TID) has also been on a detail, but to the Washington Headquarters, APM-630.....We also lost our Sector Manager, Kermit Clark to Washington Headquarters in August and part of September for a detail.....Danny Newberry, Electronics Technician from Tucson AFSFO reported to the FAA Academy in Oklahoma City as a new instructor - congratulations Danny, we will miss you.....Edith Hutchison, Electronics Technician trainee has completed one more phase of her training and was promoted.....Jimmie Bell, Supervisor of the Environmental Support Unit hosted a highly successful Environmental Supervisor/TID Technical Conference with able assistance from the Administrative Unit, primarily Barbara Schwitters, Administrative Assistant. This was the first such conference in about three years and everyone left with a lot of new information and very positive feelings about the conference.....The following sector personnel were recently presented awards: Quality Increase Awards with Outstanding Ratings - Jimmie Bell, Supervisor, Environmental Support Unit; Frederick Miller, Manager, Prescott AFSFO; Billie Chrestman, Administrative Officer; and Donald Ohms, Electronics Technician, Phoenix AFSFO; Special Achievement Award with Outstanding Rating: Ernest Mitchell, Electronics Technician, Phoenix AFSFO; Career Service Emblems: Robert Juarez, Electronics Technician, Phoenix AFSFO - 35 years; and David Lyons, Supervisor, Arts/Comm Unit, Tucson AFSFO - 25 years.



Jimmie Bell Receives Award

Jimmie Bell (right), Supervisor, Phoenix Environmental Support Unit, receives a Quality Increase Award with Outstanding Rating and congratulations from Kermit Clark, Phoenix Airway Facilities Sector Manager. Photo by: Riley Porter.

Solid-State ATIS Virtually Problem Free

"It does everything but slice bread," one technician said about one of the new solid-state Automatic Terminal Information Service (ATIS) units that have been operating for a full, virtually maintenance-free, test year. In fact, the operation of the 20 test units has been so satisfactory that the agency has already purchased 200 and is planning to buy a total of 600 for installation at towers and FSSs around the country.

ATIS is a system that allows pilots to tune in and automatically get the latest airport and weather conditions from a recording.

Since these recorders send a computer-generated voice over the airwaves, controllers were surprised and pleased to hear natural sounding voices being broadcast rather than a "chopped up" computer or robot-like voice.

Medical Review Coming

The agency has contracted with the American Medical Association (AMA) to take a state-of-the-art, professional look at airmen medical standards in Part 67 of the Federal Aviation Regulations.

Under the contract, AMA will come up with a comprehensive report which will be used by FAA as part of its evaluation of Part 67 standards. The review could lead to changes in the Part to reflect the most recent advances in medical science.

Essentially, the medical association will administer the effort and will go out into the medical community--to medical specialist societies--to get expertise in various fields. For instance, the association will convene panels from these societies to draft segments of the report dealing with heart disease, neurological disorders and so on.

AMA's report to the agency is due to be submitted in about two years.



Civilair News

- See's Candy will be for sale in time for Christmas. Order forms will be available in November. Pick up your order form at the Civilair desk or see your Civilair representative.

- Did you know that Civilair subscribes to the following magazines? Consumer Reports--Changing Times--Consumers Research--Kiplinger Letter, National--Kiplinger Letter, California. The magazines are available to all FAA employees and are located in the Management Systems Division's office, room 3W22, on the third floor of the regional office. Take advantage of these magazines and keep yourself up-to-date on the news!

- The Civilair desk in the regional office has a new phone number--213/643-8526. Jot the number down for future reference.

Color Weather Radar

Nearly All in Place

By the end of the year, FAA expects to complete its program to equip all centers and key flight service stations with color radar displays and have essential digitizers installed at virtually all radar sites.

Displays and processors already have been delivered to all 20 domestic en route centers and to the Honolulu Center. Deliveries also have been made to 33 of the 48 flight service stations slated to get the equipment.

In addition, to date, 108 of the 134 digitizers for converting weather data into signals usable by the computer have been delivered to radar sites around the country.

When the joint National Weather Service (NWS)/FAA program, known as the Radar Remote Weather Display System, is fully operational, any one of the display locations will be able to get weather information from any of the digitized radars simply by dialing the appropriate code.

The six colors on the 25-inch-wide, TV-like displays indicate the intensity of the weather disturbance. Colors range from dark red, level six, for extreme weather, to light green, level one.

Besides the FAA facilities, displays and processors will be installed in ten NWS field offices.

Flight Standards Awards

Congratulations to the following who recently received awards:

Outstanding with Quality Increase Award - Bill Yuen, James Arthur and Robert Edwards, Oakland FSDO; Mary Billica, AWP-220; Outstanding with Special Achievement Award - William Matson, San Diego GADO and Paul Muskat, Las Vegas FSDO; Letters of Appreciation - Christine Kandziora, Allen Haeggquist, Lonnie Giles, James Zoller and Richard Julian, Phoenix FSDO; Charles Johnson, San Jose GADO; Ernest Lorelli, San Diego ACDO; Gary Koch, AWP-250; Winslow Lim, Clifford Gibbons and Gary Burkett, Oakland FSDO.

Riverside AFS Recognition

Well-deserved recognition and thanks were extended to the following: Rick Bischoff received a Quality Increase Award for his outstanding performance while in the Ontario Local Unit; Ernie Ward, Palm Springs Environmental Systems Technician, received a Letter of Commendation from the Palm Springs ATCT Manager for his continued excellent service to the tower in spite of heavy workloads; and Eric Iha and Rudy Velasco both received Special Achievement Awards for their superior performance at the Van Nuys Field Office.....Another form of recognition was the following Merit Promotion selections: Bob Crosby of the Burbank Field Office was selected as the Systems Performance Specialist (SPS); Joe Starr, Ontario Remote Unit, and Rick Bischoff, Ontario Local Unit, were selected for the Ontario Radar Unit and have begun converting from Navaids to Radar career fields. Richard Resendez, Relief Technician for Riverside AFS, was selected for promotion and transfer to the Ontario Remote Unit. Don Davidson, Manager of the Palm Springs Nav/Comm Field Office has been selected for promotion to the Manager of the newly consolidated Palm Springs Field Office.....Our thanks to Don Eaton and Dewey Nardini who performed the tasks of Acting Field Office Manager for the Palm Springs Radar Field Office prior to the consolidation.....Happiest of all is Tandy Davis of Burbank who retired June 30 after spending the last dozen years there. Our best wishes for happy retirement living.....Others reaching milestones in their career were Fernando Lorenz, 25 years; Tom Twadell, 25 years; and Florence (Tipton) Placencia, 15 years.



40 Years for George Houghton

George Houghton (right), Manager, Civil Aviation Security Field Office - Honolulu, recently was presented with his 40-year career service emblem by "Mac" McClure, Director, Western-Pacific Region. George joined the FAA in 1964. Prior to coming with FAA, he served in the U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps in Japan, Washington, DC, and Honolulu.

HELP!

About four times per year the County Medical Office must have a toxicology box delivered to the Aviation Medical Division here at the Regional Office. We are looking for someone who commutes from that area and will help us by picking up the box. The County Medical Office is located at 1105 N. Mission Rd. (near Interstate 5 and 10; north of downtown Los Angeles). For further details please call ext. 6300. Thank You.

Second Regional

QC Facilitator

Training Seminar

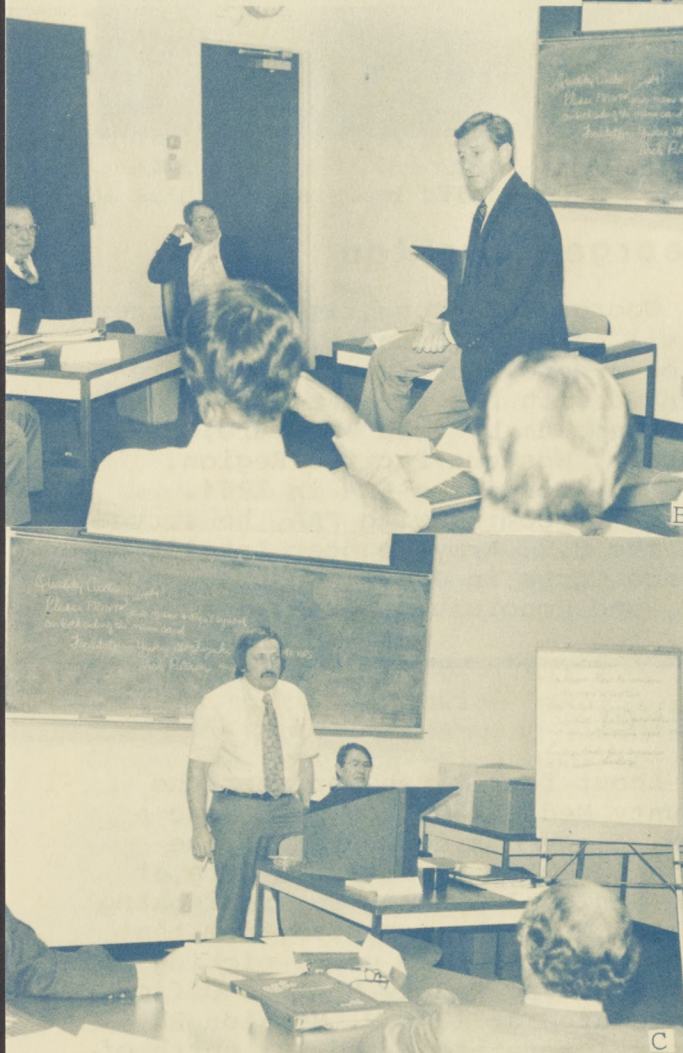


The Second Regional Quality Circle (QC) Facilitator/Leader Training Seminar, sponsored by the Western-Pacific Training Branch, was held at the Regional Office. Instructors for the course were Dick Peterson, AWP-17, and Yukio "Mo" Mochizuki, Los Angeles Airway Facilities Sector. The following volunteers from Flight Standards, Air Traffic and Airway Facilities Divisions completed the course: Robert Briant, FS; Roy Anderson, John Crain, John Crenshaw, Henry Harris, Donald Lingren, David Lyons, John Noster, Henry Pila, Angelo Rivera, Kenneth Sander, James Wuollet and Sitala Sitala, Jr., AF; and Marvin Holbert, AT. The QC Facilitators will organize and train volunteers for QCs in their respective work areas to identify, define, investigate, analyze and solve work related problems.

A--Group photo of the graduates.

B--Dick Devereaux, Deputy Regional Director, addressing QC Facilitators.

C--Alex Hammond, Airway Facilities Division Manager, explains QC Program in Airway Facilities Division.



Associate Federal Women's Program Managers Appointed

The appointments of four Associate Federal Women's Program Managers were recently announced by Joe Alvarez, Civil Rights Officer: Edale Clark, San Diego; June Lucas, Hawaii; Sherry Seward, Las Vegas; and Terri Landon, Reno. In this capacity, the four will coordinate FAA Federal Women's Program activities in their respective areas. They will be the focal point of contact with other federal agencies regarding the FWP. In addition, they will be available to consult with FAA managers and employees on the special concerns of women.

Edale Clark - San Diego Area. Edale, Air Traffic Control Specialist, began her Federal career with the Navy Department at Treasure Island before transferring to FAA in 1974. Since that time, she worked at Oakland ARTCC, Arcata FSS, Oakland FSS, Palo Alto ATCT and San Carlos ATCT, prior to her present assignment to the San Diego FSS. Edale serves on the Facility Technical Advisory Committee. She has made numerous presentations to pilot groups.

June Lucas - Hawaii Area. June is a Visual Information Specialist in the Honolulu ARTCC. She transferred to FAA in 1971 from the Naval Submarine Base at Pearl Harbor. June is an active member of Federally Employed Women, Inc., and was recently cited by that organization for her outstanding leadership during the FEW National Training Program held in Honolulu. She is also a member of the National Organization for Women and is on the ARTCC's Human Relations Committee.

Sherry Seward - Las Vegas Area. Sherry, a Clerical Assistant in the Las Vegas ATCT, joined FAA in 1974. She previously worked for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the AEC-NASA office in Nevada. Sherry has been active in Federal Women's Program activi-

ties in the Las Vegas area. She is on the ATCT's Human Relations Committee. During her tenure with FAA, Sherry has received numerous performance awards.

Terri Landon - Reno Area. Terri is employed as an Air Traffic Control Specialist in the Reno FSS. Before becoming an ATCS, Terri held several administrative positions in the Reno AFS. She also worked for the Agriculture Department in Reno.



Ron Sandoval Presented Award

Ron Sandoval (left), Environmental Support Unit Supervisor, received a Quality Increase Award from the Reno Airway Facilities Sector Field Office Manager, Bill Dickinson. Although Ron's unit was understaffed, they had over 99% facility reliability/availability and preventive maintenance accomplishment this past year. Congratulations, Ron!

Predevelopmental Program For Electronic Technician, GS-856-3

The Airway Facilities Predevelopmental Program for Electronic Technician is being reopened. Positions will be announced in the AWP Career Opportunities Announcement. This is an opportunity to provide upward mobility to the position of Electronic Technician for employees who are in a position lacking career progression beyond GS-8 (or equivalent). Selectees of this position will receive basic training in the fundamentals of mathematics, electronics, and shop practices. Work assignments will consist of understudying and assisting Electronic Technicians of higher grades. For additional information, please contact Ruth Arnold, Employment Branch, X6304 (FTS 966-6304).

Concord Tower Notes

Congratulations to Concord's newest Full Performance Levels Marianne Smith and Ron Attard. Kudos are also in order to Air Traffic Control Specialist Mike Riley on his Special Achievement Award.....The stork paid a visit to the tower on August 10. Air Traffic Control Specialist Jon Kalsbeek and his wife Virginia are the proud parents of daughter, Marina Annalise.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings at R.O.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are being held at the Regional Headquarters. Both old and new members are welcome. For information, please call Anne Clayton, Aviation Medical Div., Ext. 6300.



Key People in United Way Campaign

Two FAAers volunteered their services for the Greater West End United Way Campaign in Ontario, Calif. Jim Holtsclaw (left) served as chairman for the Kickoff Planning Committee and also as Master of Ceremonies at the kickoff festivities held at Ontario International Airport. Jim Welton (right) served as a committee member of the Kickoff Planning Committee and as division chairman of the Government Division. Holtsclaw, now Los Angeles Tower Manager, was formerly Facility Manager at Ontario Tower/TRACON. Welton is Chino Tower Manager and previously was Manager at El Monte, Riverside and Area Air Traffic Manager at Ontario Tower/TRACON.

