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Cover Story

1985 Maintenance Technician Of The Year

Bill Groman, a technical instructor at Northrop University's Aviation Technical School and for the Los Angeles Unified School District, was recently honored by the FAA for his being selected by the aviation industry as the 1985 Maintenance Technician of the Year.

Groman received his honor in the form of a plaque presented by Deputy Director Keith Potts at an FAA Aviation Safety Education Seminar held in Los Angeles.

"This award is given annually to a person who has contributed significantly and regularly to aviation education and safety," said Jack Norris, Accident Prevention Specialist for the Los Angeles Flight Standards District Office and coordinator for the program. "Groman was considered the most qualified to receive this award." His down-to-earth and easy to read columns in the Pacific Flyer have consistently been among the most popular regular features in the paper, according to surveys conducted by the editors. "His excellent articles published in the Pacific Flyer Newspaper were a major factor in his selection," Norris added.

Groman holds many FAA certificates including Airframe and Powerplant mechanic, Basic and Advanced Pilot Ground Inspector, and FAA Inspection Authorization. He is a pilot and holds a second-degree medical certificate. In addition, Groman is a turbo propulsion mechanic for the Air National Guard.

Cover photo:

Deputy Director Keith Potts presents FAA recognition award to Bill Groman, 1985 Maintenance Technician of the Year honoree, as Mrs. Groman looks on happily.



Above:

Bill Groman receives plaque from Deputy Director Keith Potts.

Story and photos by Russell Park.

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H.C. McClure
Director

Rafael Riera
Copy Editor

Barbara Abels
Public Affairs
Officer/Editor

Please submit
material for
publication and
photos, in black
and white only,
to AWP-5.

Russell Park
Associate Editor

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Federal Holiday



January 20, 1986, will mark the first observance of the Federal holiday honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. The Act creating the holiday was passed after more than 16 years of effort by the King family, The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc., and the countless friends and supporters of Dr. King. Support for the legislation came from all walks of life--from select members of Congress, the White House, business and labor, from civil rights and religious groups and most important, from those individuals who have worked continuously to make his dream a reality.

The Act sets aside the third Monday of January as the official Federal holiday. According to the Act, "the holiday should serve as a time for Americans to reflect on the principles of racial equality and nonviolent social change espoused by Martin Luther King, Jr." President Reagan has called it "A celebration of freedom and justice which will unite all our citizens."

During this special holiday, let us all in the Western-Pacific Region take pride and share in the spirit of the words of Mrs. Coretta Scott King:

"This holiday which we prepare for and which will be observed by generations yet unborn, must be a day in which we put aside all that separates us to focus on all that binds us.

"We are asking for peace and nonviolence in our homes and families, in our relationships and in every aspect of our personal lives. We are asking for a world-wide exercise in forgiveness, in the mending of broken families and divided communities."

Fresno Tower/ TRACON Retirements

Four long-time and valuable Fresno Stalwarts elected to take permanent days off and a retirement check in exchange for over 128 years of government service. Manager Will Cope, Supervisor Barry Small, and Controllers Keith Bartram and Ron Severe appeared at a Retirement Dinner held in their honor. The retirement celebration was at the Airport Holiday Inn, Fresno, Calif. Happy Retirement to each of you.



WILL COPE

"DAD"



BARRY SMALL

BB



KEITH BARTRAM

"CALIFORNIA BART"



RON SEVERE

RS

FSSCOM In Action

In October of 1985 the Western-Pacific Region Flight Service Station FSSCOM Committee met to review proposals for procedural changes to the various flight service handbooks. This committee consisted of selected Air Traffic Control Specialists from various Flight Service Stations in the region. These facility representatives and their alternates received input on proposed procedural changes from the work force of every Flight Service Station in the region. Equipped with these proposals, the 12-member team along with Gary Prock, the regional chairperson for 1985, met to review these suggestions. During the three and one half day meeting there were a total of 65 suggestions/proposals processed, 42 of which were forwarded to the National FSSCOM meeting in early December.

At the conclusion of the 1985

Regional FSSCOM, Robert Andrews of Reno FSS was elected to be the 1986 Regional Chairperson.

After spending two weeks at the National FSSCOM in Washington, D.C., Gary Prock reported back with this year's results: The Western-Pacific Region submitted 42 proposals, 20 of which were accepted and forwarded to FAA headquarters for final draft. Two of our proposals were already being implemented. Nationally there was a total of 215 proposals submitted by all the regions: 195 considered; 98 accepted.

At the conclusion of the national meeting Gary Prock was elected to be the 1986 National FSSCOM Chairperson. This committee is a prime example of human relations in the FAA, allowing a specialist to have his viewpoint or suggestion heard and possibly acted upon by FAA national headquarters. If you have a suggestion to make the procedures better or safer, contact your nearest FSSCOM representative and voice your ideas!

Success At San Francisco Tower

After a year of continual training, San Francisco Tower is happy to announce that several developmentals have made it to the Full Performance Level ranks. Rand Lanterman was certified on October 9; Phyllis Caul checked out on October 31; and Denise Sanchez certified on November 1. Not to be outdone, Greg Kingery flew through the program and was signed off on October 27, less than six months after arriving at the Sector Field Office. Congratulations are in order for their instructors, James Babcock, Dave Bottini, Fred Davis and Sonny Bollman, respectively, who hung in there and did an excellent job.

Sean Cullinane, Dave Bottini and Gary Dupertuis received Special Achievement Awards recently; Tom Perkins and Terry Stout earned well-deserved Quality Within-Grades and Dave Bahem was awarded his 30-year pin by Air Traffic Manager Ed Lewis in October 1985. Congratulations!

San Francisco Tower is looking forward to working with Gary Munnell beginning in January 1986 when he reports from Tucson as an Area Supervisor.

Oakland ARTCC Awards

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Theodore Effken, Automation Specialist

Alfred Pruitt, Air Traffic Control Specialist Developmental
Frank Hill, Air Traffic Assistant
Congratulations to each of you.

Airway Facilities Maintenance Operations Branch Awards

Recent awards for the Airway Facilities Maintenance Operations Branch people are as follows: In the NAV/COMM/Data Section, a Letter of Appreciation was received by Bill Stewart from the Manager at Tonopah, Airway Facilities Sector Field Office (AFSFO). Tom Fujiwara also received a Letter of Appreciation from the Manager of the Los Angeles Facilities Sector. Cliff Weinan, AWP-463, was presented a Quality Within-Grade with an Outstanding rating. Bill Lindsey, AWP-463, received a Letter of Appreciation from the Manager Tonopah AFSFO. Gert Williams, AWP-460, was presented a Quality Within-Grade with an Outstanding by Dick Muckle. She also received a Letter of Appreciation for her support of the Federal Women's Committee.



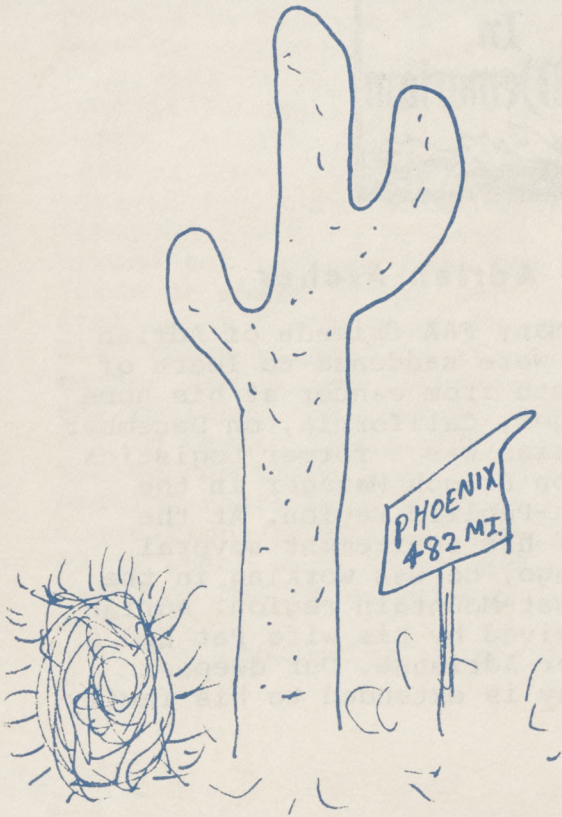
Adrian Archer

The many FAA friends of Adrian Archer were saddened to learn of his death from cancer at his home in Sanger, California, on December 18. Adrian was a former Logistics Division Branch Manager in the Western-Pacific region. At the time of his retirement several years ago, he was working in the Northwest-Mountain region. Adrian is survived by his wife Pat and a daughter Adrienne. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family.

**KERMIT
CLARK
RETIRES**



**ED KANEKO
LEAVES FOR
TOKYO**



As you can plainly see, many friends and co-workers of Kermit Clark and Ed Kaneko came together to honor them at a combined farewell luncheon held in Los Angeles.

Kermit Clark, Manager of the Phoenix Airway Facilities Sector and FAA Coordinator for many years, has retired after a long and illustrious career. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Ed Kaneko has left his position as Manager of the Honolulu Center Airway Facilities Sector and will become the Western-Pacific FAA representative in Tokyo. He will be working under the Planning, Appraisal and International Aviation Staff, AWP-4.

Clockwise, from top: Cynthia Whitney, AWP-423; Janie Harris, AWP-22A; and Thomas Pope, Office of the Inspector General.....

From left--Ken Pirl, Manager, Oakland Center AFS; Charles Bennett, LAX AFS; Leonard Covington, AWP-464; Richard Browder, AWP-466; and Wayne Lynch, AWP-17.

.....Bob Lamora (left), Manager of the Sacramento AFS and FAA Coordinator, and Mel Haworth, Manager of the Golden Gate AFS.

.....And, from left--Wes Martyn, AWP-420; FAA Retiree Sam Grillo (formerly with AWP-420 and FAA Toastmasters Club) and Jim Lougheed, Assistant Manager, LAX Airway Facilities Sector.

Photos by Barbara Abels.



(Editor's Note: This letter is really the type we like to receive. It was written by an individual and published in the editorial section of the Bakersfield Californian newspaper. Hats off to Don Miller and Mike Millen for doing their part in enhancing our public relations.)

Douglas Chiccitt
P.O. Box 737
1401 Oregon St.
Bakersfield, CA 93305
323-5140

10 November, 1985

Viewpoint
P.O. Box 440
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Sir:

From all accounts in the Californian over the last few months, the proposed runway and taxiway extensions at Meadows Field has caused somewhat of a fuss. It seems that most pilots see the post-landing turnaround as an inconvenience rather than a safety hazard. The majority of general aviation pilots, like myself, will stop their landing roll far short of the turnaround point anyway.

Weathering the storm of controversy is Larry Galindo, Airport Manager, who has taken the unprecedented step of calling for a forum of pilots, engineers and developers to discuss the issue. I've never met Mr. Galindo but he seems to be carrying a tremendous weight valiantly.

Two men that I have met at the airport are Don Miller, Chief of Tower Operations and Mike Millen, Manager of the Flight Service Station. When I recently visited their offices in search of information about employment as an Air Traffic Controller, they went out of their way to help me.

Mr. Miller seemed personally disappointed that I was too old (39) to qualify as an ATC. He offered me a cup of coffee and referred me to Mr. Millen to help me seek information about other jobs available within the Flight Service category.

While I talked to Mr. Millen in his office, I noticed his desk piled high with papers and reports, so I knew I was interrupting a busy man. Nevertheless, he took the time to burrow through files and made phone calls to put me on the right track. When I left his office armed with names and numbers and forms, Mr. Millen even asked me to let him know how things work out.

I may be making a big deal of these courtesies, but, still, I was personally touched and confident that not only is Meadows Field staffed with competent personnel but people with heart.

Even the tower personnel; radar operators and ATCs on the observation deck, seemed to enjoy the chance to show visitors the complexities of their jobs and answer questions.

As an employee of the Postal Service, I can personally attest that their efficient attitudes are not typical of many government workers.

Maybe it's the fraternity of people associated with aviation.

Whatever, I extend my thanks to them all and encourage the public to support them and accept their hospitality and trust their services.

Douglas Chiccitt