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San Diego FSDO Honors Inspector Lefler

Cover Story



Operations Inspector Jennifer Lefler has been selected as the first San Diego Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) Employee Of The Quarter by a committee of her peers. According to FSDO Manager John Hull, "Jennifer has made outstanding contributions in her work during the last quarter."

Jennifer was presented a Letter of Commendation from the FSDO manager and a Leadership Award with an accompanying \$750 Tuition Scholarship from Sandra Ellwood, Awards Coordinator of National University.

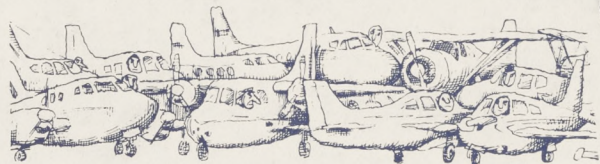
This new FSDO program was established in conjunction with National University's Scholarship Program to recognize outstanding leadership and project accomplishment by FSDO employees during each quarter of the year.

Nominations are made at any time during the quarter by anyone who wishes to do so. The FSDO Human Relations Committee reviews the nominations at the end of each quarter and selects the most outstanding one as the Employee of the Quarter.

Qualifying considerations for nominations are broad and simple:

1. Good, consistent, reliable, on-the-job performance.
2. Positive motivation of self and/or others.
3. Display of leadership ability.
4. Significant achievements or presentations.
5. Displayed qualities of good supervisory/management potential.
6. Initiative in personal development.
7. Actions, ideas or innovations to improve performance, the workplace, employee worklife, Federal Aviation Regulations, policies, procedures, or anything else which may have a positive impact on the efficiency or effectiveness of the person, the Unit, the FSDO, the Region or the Agency.

Cover photo: Operations Inspector Jennifer Lefler receives the Employee of the Quarter Letter of Commendation from FSDO Manager John Hull. (Photo by Avionics Inspector Don Smith.)



Western-Pacific Intercom

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Robert Cox Retires

Farewell Dinner Planned

After 34 years of federal service, Robert Cox, Airway Facilities Sector Manager of the Los Angeles Center, retired on January 2.

Bob's technical career began after spending three years in construction and two years in the U.S. Army in Fairbanks, Alaska. When his Army tour was over, Bob apprenticed in electronics from 1955-1959 at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard. During this period, he completed work on a pre-engineering AA degree at Long Beach City College.

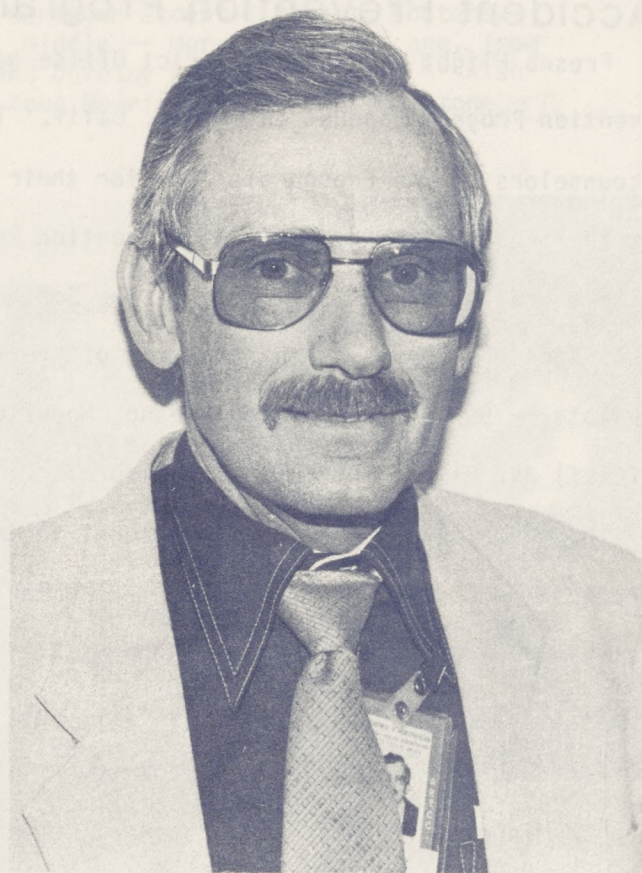
In March 1960, he entered FAA service at the Systems Maintenance District 1 Office as a Relief Electronics Technician and, until 1963, was assigned to the Long Beach Terminal Radar (ASR-3), San Pedro Long Range Radar (LRR), Boron LRR, the old Los Angeles Center (on Manchester Blvd.), and then to Los Angeles Center in Palmdale, Calif. In 1964 through 1967, Bob worked as Supervisor at Mt. Laguna LRR.

In 1967, Bob returned to Los Angeles Center in Palmdale as Assistant Systems Engineer, then Systems Engineer, where he specifically worked with others to bring the Radar Processing NAS Stage A into being.

During 1974-1975, Bob was En Route Automation/Radar Section Chief at the Regional Office. In 1976-1977, he filled another square when he traveled to the Oakland Center as Assistant Sector Manager.

From 1978 to the present, Bob has served as Sector Manager of Los Angeles Center where he takes pride in the accomplishments of all Sector employees, particularly during these times of new technology, new equipment and the building expansion program.

Bob and his wife, Barbara, reside in Palmdale. They plan to remain there for a couple of reasons. One is that Bob and his son, Ed, jointly own an airplane which they enjoy flying together. Secondly, Bob is a natural-born hard worker



and has accepted a new career with a support contractor at Edwards Air Force Base.

A farewell dinner is planned to honor Bob for his many years of dedicated service to the FAA on Saturday evening, February 21, at the Elks Lodge, Avenue K (one block east of Sierra Highway), Lancaster, Calif. A welcoming hour of old friends and coworkers will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a buffet dinner following at 7:30 p.m. The price is \$14 per person (includes tax and tip). For reservations and more information, contact Anita Moore at 805/947-4101.

This will be an evening of comraderie and renewed friendships Bob has enjoyed over the years, and he is looking forward to seeing many of the out-of-towners and retirees. If you need room reservations in nearby motels, contact the Sector for arrangements.

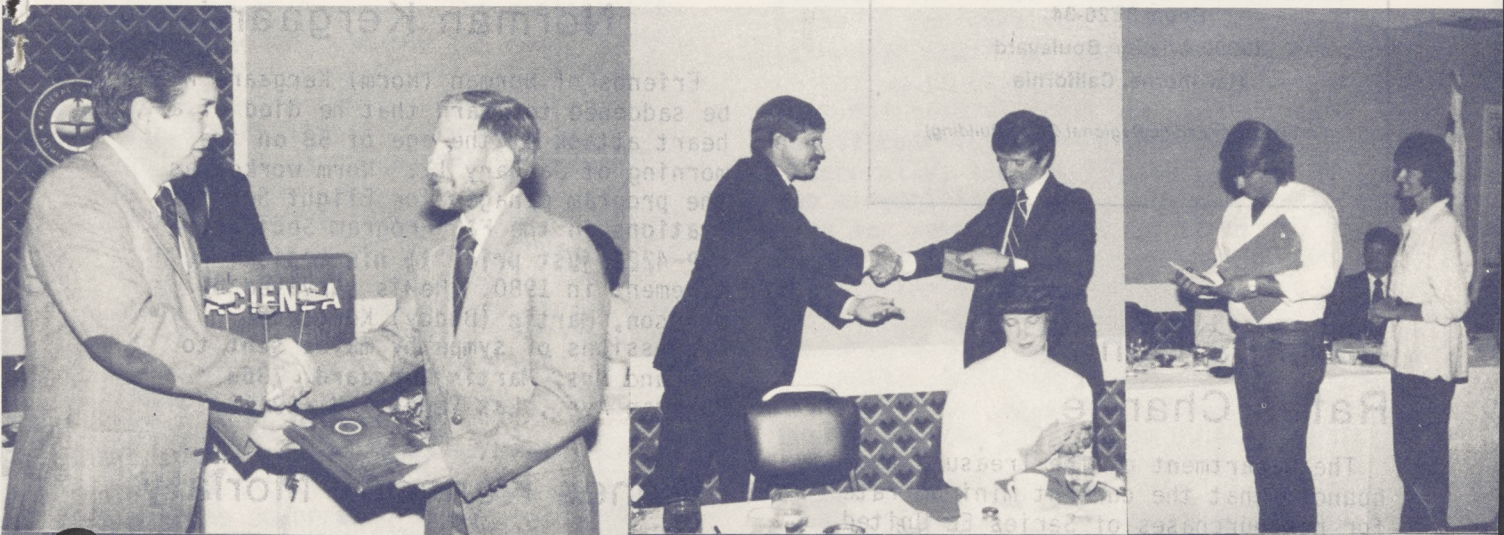
Fresno FSDO Hosts Accident Prevention Program Awards

Fresno Flight Standards District Office held its first annual Accident Prevention Program Banquet in Fresno, Calif. The banquet was held in honor of counselors of the Fresno district for their outstanding performance and contributions toward the Accident Prevention Program and the safety improvement of the overall aviation community of the Southern San Joaquin Valley. This event was sponsored by the three chapters of the International Organization of Women Pilots -- 99's (Bakersfield, Fresno, Modesto) and the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary (Civil Air Patrol) of Central California.

The winners announced at the banquet in the various categories are -- Accident Prevention Counselor of the Year = Alan Geringer of Selma, Calif.; Counselors-at-Large -- Dan Gudgel of Kern County, Calif., Jennifer Stone of Tulare County, Calif., Jim Schmidt of Fresno County, Calif., Gail McCullough of Merced County, Calif. and Pat Titus of Stanislaus County, Calif.; Annual Flight Safety Award -- Chuck Michele of Bakersfield, Calif.; Annual Airport Safety Improvement -- Doug Mooridian of Fresno, Calif.; Outstanding Counselor of the Qtr/3rd Calendar Qtr -- Dorothy Robinson of Kern County, Calif., Merl Schmetgen and Mike Archer of Tulare County, Calif., Steve Shackelford of Fresno County, Calif. and Ken Thompson of Merced County, Calif.

Guest speaker was Rod Machado of Huntington Beach, Calif., -- noted aviation enthusiast and professional aviation speaker of Southern California. Master of Ceremonies was John Roach of Fresno FSDO with special guest Edwards Hammonds, Fresno District Office Manager of Fresno FSDO; Jack Norris, Regional Accident Prevention Coordinator, AWP-250; Phyllis Cleveland, Accident Prevention Specialist of Fresno FSDO; Janice Gray of the California Aviation Council; Lynn Ahrens, 99's representative and Jim Nelson of the Civil Air Patrol. Approximately 70 people attended the highly successful affair, which highlighted the 1986 Accident Prevention Program.

Photos: Top, left == Fresno FSDO Manager Ed Hammonds (left) presented awards to honorees at the banquet. Dan Gudgel, right, accepts Counselor-at-Large Award. Next == Master of Ceremonies John Roach (left) presents a special award to Guest Speaker Rod Machado. Next -- Alan and Lynn Geringer accept a trip to Monterey as part of the Counselor of the Year Award. Middle == More recipients are, from left, Ken Thompson, Jim Schmidt, Pat Titus and Dorothy Robinson. Below -- Also honored are Alan Geringer, Gail McCullough, Doug Mooridian and Jennifer Stone.



FAA Western Federal Credit Union

Thirty-seventh Annual Meeting

4:30 P.M., February 11, 1987

Room 3E26-34

15000 Aviation Boulevard

Hawthorne, California

(FAA Western-Pacific Regional Office Building)



Norman Kergaard

Friends of Norman (Norm) Kergaard will be saddened to learn that he died of a heart attack at the age of 58 on the morning of January 11. Norm worked as the program manager for Flight Service Stations in the F&E Program Section, AWP-422, just prior to his medical retirement in 1980. He is survived by one son, Martin (Buddy) Kergaard. Expressions of sympathy maybe sent to Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kergaard, 7363 Puritan Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89123.

Savings Bond Rates Change

The Department of the Treasury has announced that the current minimum rate for new purchases of Series EE United States Savings Bonds held five years or longer will be 6.0 percent. The current minimum rate, replacing the 7.5 percent minimum rate in effect from November 1, 1982 through October 31, 1986, will affect all EE Bonds purchased on and after November 1, 1986, until such time as market conditions again may require a change in the current minimum rate. Older bonds will retain their previously-guaranteed rates until the end of their original or current extended maturity period.

Agnes Kennedy Moriarty

We are saddened to report the death of Agnes Kennedy Moriarty on December 23. Agnes was 81 at the time of her death. She had retired from the regional Logistics Division in the mid 1970's, and had served as division secretary.

Agnes is survived by her husband Maurice; a son Paul of Platteville, Wisc.; a daughter Ann Janacito of Torrance, Calif.; and four grandchildren. To her family and friends, Agnes left a legacy of faith and love.

Jack A. Black

Friends of Jack A. Black will be saddened to learn of his death on December 26. Jack had retired as Logistics Division Chief in the early 1970's after serving the CAA/FAA for more than 40 years in Hawaii, Colorado and California.

Jack is survived by his wife; a daughter, Malia, of Humble, Texas; and three grandchildren. Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Black at 2231 Carriage Drive, Rolling Hills Estates, Calif. 90274. She requests no flowers be sent.

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Eastern time, Monday
through Friday, except
holidays.



News in Brief

* Associate Administrator for Administration Brooks Goldman has presented Quality Control System Certificates to Norden Systems of Melville, N.Y., for its work on two National Airspace System (NAS) Plan programs. The certificates recognize the company for establishing the quality control and manufacturing systems required to produce the Airport Surface Detection Equipment, (ASDE-3) and the Air Route Surveillance Radar Modification Kits.

* FAA has given Flight Safety International (FSI) a phase II approval for a new Citation III simulator. The approved device is installed at the company's Wichita facility. FSI is also planning to install simulators in Long Beach, CA, Toledo, OH, and Le Bourget Airport in Paris.

* Administrator Engen has informed Congressmen that 20 air traffic facilities will be downgraded March 15. These facilities were originally scheduled to be reclassified on January 4, but the actions were postponed because of Congressional interest. Engen assured the lawmakers that all administrative protections would be invoked for affected controllers and technicians.

Retirement Rates Clarified

The Office of Accounting has clarified the retirement withholding rates previously reported in Intercom. As reported, rates will not change for most FAA employees, but two groups of individuals will experience an increase. Air traffic controllers converted to the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) will face an increase from 1.3 to 1.8 percent.

Also facing an increase of 1.8 percent are firefighters hired after 1983 but not converted to FERS. These employees remain under the Civil Service Retirement System because they are vested based on prior Government service.

New Regulations for Commuters

FAA has adopted new regulations upgrading the airworthiness and performance standards for future commuter airplanes. The rules create a new commuter category for airplanes with up to 19 passenger seats and a maximum takeoff weight up to 19,000 pounds. It will affect all such aircraft for which a type certificate is sought after Feb. 17.

Generally, the new regulations bring the airworthiness and performance standards for commuter aircraft closer to the ones in effect for large passenger aircraft. For example, the engine fire detection and extinguishing standards are comparable to those required for large aircraft. The flammability standards for cabin interior materials also are upgraded and the performance requirements strengthened to comply with the recommended ICAO standards.

The action amends the small aircraft certification standards of Part 23 of the FARs to include the special commuter category which will be comparable in many ways to the Part 25 transport aircraft standards.

Program in FY 88 Budget

As anticipated, FAA's FY 1988 budget request seeks funds for a three-year evaluation of contracting out certain Airway Facilities maintenance functions. The three-region pilot program had been proposed previously in the FY 1987 budget but failed to win Congressional approval.

If the agency's latest proposal is supported by the Congress, the contract would be awarded in late FY 1988, provided a cost comparison study determines that contractors could perform the work more economically than FAA's own maintenance organization.

The three regions targeted for the pilot study still are Eastern, Great Lakes and Southern. Contrary to a previous report in Intercom, there are no present plans to change the participants.

Knolton and Ellis Retiring from Coast

Jim Knolton and Dick Ellis have recently retired from Coast TRACON with more than 72 years of combined service.

Jim, an area manager, has 36 years of federal service to his tribute, including 20 years in the U.S. Air Force where he had served in Viet Nam. Among other honors, he has received two Bronze Stars and seven Air Force Commendation medals. Jim's FAA career took him to Edwards RAPCON, Palmdale, El Monte and Santa Monica Towers.

Dick entered FAA service in July 1960, and served in air traffic control towers in diverse locations including Colorado Springs, Colo.; Missoula, Mont.; Santa Barbara, Calif.; John Wayne Orange County, Santa Ana, Calif; and finally at Coast TRACON. Dick leaves Coast as an area manager with nearly 37 years of federal service.

These men will be honored at a retirement dinner scheduled for Thursday evening, February 19, with cocktails at 6:30 followed by dinner at 7:30. The festivities will be held at the Officers Club, MCAS El Toro.

Please call Irv Vodovoz at Coast, 714/559-1061, for more information and reservations.

Retirement Dinner Planned for Holtsclaw

Los Angeles Tower cordially extends an invitation to a dinner party in honor of Jim Holtsclaw, Air Traffic Manager, who will be retiring from federal service. The dinner is scheduled for Saturday, February 28, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Stouffer Concourse Hotel, 5400 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90045. The cost is \$30 per person.

For more information, contact Los Angeles Tower at 213/215-2069.

New Random Testing Proposed For DOT Employees

Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole has proposed random drug testing for FAA and other DOT employees in critical safety and security positions.

In FAA's case, this requirement would be in addition to the agency's previously announced drug testing program which still is scheduled to go into effect on Feb. 15, pending final approval from the Department of Justice. The FAA program requires testing for drug and alcohol abuse as part of the annual medical examination given to designated safety and security employees. Pre-employment screening for these positions also is required. (See December, 1986, FAA World.)

The requirement for random drug testing would be included in the program later in the year when procedures are completed. The Secretary has set a May target date for its implementation as part of the total DOT program. That program will require pre-employment, random, periodic, reasonable suspicion and accident or unsafe practice testing. It would affect 26,500 DOT employees of which 24,500 work for FAA.

Both the FAA and DOT-wide programs offer rehabilitation opportunities to all employees determined to be using illegal drugs off duty. However, in all cases, those taking drugs on duty will be removed from the Federal service.

In addition, to the program for DOT employees, Secretary Dole said she will work with FAA on regulations to require a similar drug testing program for airline flight crews and other airline employees in safety-related positions. The agency already has issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that addresses this subject.

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