

Northrop Rice Foundation Newsletter



June, 2008

Volume 5, Issue 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Up! Up! Up! Up! Up! That is not an airplane, a balloon, or a bird. That is the price of gasoline that we all must purchase in order for us to accomplish our daily tasks and to enjoy the life style we are accustomed to. Yes, in the past we have been relying on relatively cheap fuel, and the recent price escalation has been alarming. However, the large cost increases are here and we must adjust our life style to compensate for the energy cost escalation.

While the energy crisis affect us as individuals, the impact on the aviation industry is catastrophic. The price of aviation gas and jet fuel has increased faster than regular gasoline. This significant increase could not have come at a worse time for the air carriers. Many of them have, or are in the process of declaring bankruptcy. Many are further reducing staff and some are eliminating route services. For many of the air carriers the recent fuel cost increases are the "straw that broke the camels back". For all of the others the economic impact of the energy price increase is requiring them to take further action.

Many of the air carriers are making additional reductions in staff. Some are grounding their older fuel consuming airplanes, and most are reducing passenger service to certain cities. A few air carriers are eliminating in-flight services, starting to charge for soft drinks and for checking a bag. There is some question as to whether these actions will be enough for a few of the air carriers to survive.

The reason that I bring the fuel crisis to your attention is that I fear that our Northrop Rice Foundation and efforts of other Foundations to improve the skills and status of the Aviation Maintenance Technician will be overshadowed by industry concerns on fuel costs. In fact, during crisis such as this, the improvement in the performance and qualification of the Aviation Maintenance Technician is more significant. While there are procedural changes in the way an airplane is flown to save fuel, proper maintenance and airplane cleanliness can be a major factor in reducing fuel burn.

I spent several years of my aviation career in an Operational Engineering assignment, one that required me to work with the air carriers concerning fuel conservation. I can assure you that proper maintenance and a clean airplane can significantly reduce fuel burned.

Another concern that I have is that with the air carriers and other aviation industry organizations

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reducing staff, a significant number of currently certificated technicians are being laid off.

Therefore, there is probably a feeling that there is at present a surplus of Aviation Maintenance Technicians. This may be true at the present, or near future. However, we all know that these down turns are cyclic and there will be an up turn in the industry requiring additional personnel.

When the cyclic up turn returns, will there be enough qualified Aviation Maintenance Technicians to meet the demand? During the down turn many of them will leave the aviation industry and join other occupations. Many will reach retirement age and during this cycle the technology of the airplanes will change, requiring new skills by the returning and future technicians.

The Northrop Rice Foundation has strategic plans that we are presently finalizing that will address this concern. By working with the FAA approved Part 147 Schools, the air carriers and governmental agencies we together will be prepared to meet new challenges.

The Northrop Rice Foundation requests that we all keep a positive attitude during the present crisis. As the energy situations becomes clearer, we as a team have the skills and resources to make the positive changes that will be necessary to enable our industry to be the major transportation provider.

We thank you for your past support and look forward to serving you in the future.

Jim Lukins, President

NRF Board of Directors

James Lukins—*President*, Retired—Boeing Director of Maintenance Training, Seattle, WA
Email: jimmyl@hctc.com

Ivan Livi—*Vice President*, Director Emeritus-Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, Pittsburgh, PA
Email: ivan.livi@verizon.net

Cathy Landry—*Secretary/Treasurer*, Owner-AlphaBravo LLC, Houston, TX
Email: cathy@alphabravo.com

Michael Lee—*Vice President, Courseware and Maintenance Business Development -FlightSafety International*, Hurst, TX
Email: mike.lee@flightsafety.com

Paul Lillig—Retired-Marketing Executive & Business Owner, Kansas City, MO
Email: palfran@sbcglobal.net

Fred Mingle—Program Manager for Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul Technology Programs, Embry Riddle University, Daytona Beach, FL
Email: mirglef@erau.edu

James Wolfe—Retired, USAF, Associated Aero, Dallas, TX
Email: colonelwhoswho@earthlink.net

Rita Daily—Vice-President, Business Support, BCA, The Boeing Company
Email: rita.a.daily@boeing.com

Greg Napert—Group Publisher-Aviation, Cygnus Publishing, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin
Email: gnapert@amtonline.com

The Northrop Rice Foundation Newsletter will be published three times a year - February, June and October. If you have any suggestions on articles or information you would like to see in the NRF Newsletter, please contact Alice Rice at 281-334-5932 or email at mar246@juno.com

Northrop Rice Foundation

Telephone: 713-644-6616

Fax: 281-334-0335

Web: [www.northropicefoundation.org](http://www.northropricefoundation.org)

For information about the activities of the Foundation or to obtain details about any of the programs described in this newsletter, visit the Foundation web site at www.northropicefoundation.org, or email a request for information to Ivan D. Livi, at ivan.livi@verizon.net, or nrf@alphabravo.com.

2008 Scholarships and Awards

The winners of the scholarships and awards were announced at the Awards Banquet on April 7, 2008 during the ATEC Annual Conference held in Las Vegas, NV. There were eight categories of scholarships and awards sponsored by aviation companies. All but one were administered by the Northrop Rice Foundation. The Dale Hurst Memorial Scholarship was administered by the ATEC Member Services Committee. Following are the winners of the scholarships and awards.

S&K Hand Tool Company Tool Sets

Lized Masache, Teterboro School of Aeronautics
Brendan Huenergardt, San Joaquin Valley College
Quina Wade, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Wing Aero Products Company Aviation Book Scholarships

Victor Udechukwu, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics
Abel Almaguer, Aviation Institute of Maintenance
Kevin Barkley, Middle Georgia Technical College
Shawn Smith, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics
James Park, Idaho State University
Donald Merriam, Spokane Community College
Kane Wallick, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics

AVOTEK Dale Hurst Memorial Scholarship

Reedley College Instructors Bob Takacs, Keith Zielke, and David Richie

Southwest Airlines Boeing Avionics Course

Dennis Fisher, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics

FlightSafety International King Air Maintenance Course Scholarship

Brian McGlynn, Lane Community College

Rotorcraft Enterprises Start Pac Award

Middle Tennessee State University

NIDA Corporation AMT Training System

Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics

Student of the Year Award

Shawn Smith, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics



For 2009 there will be several additional scholarship and awards including the James Villnave Memorial Scholarship. Information about the 2009 scholarships and awards will go to all ATEC schools as announcements and bulletin board notices beginning in September with the new academic year. Also, information sheets and applications can be downloaded from the Northrop Rice Foundation and ATEC web sites, or by email from Ivan D. Livi, ivan.livi@verizon.net and Cathy Landry, nrf@alphabravo.com.

Start Pac Power Supply Awarded To MTSU

An \$825.00 equipment grant by Rotorcraft Enterprises of Las Vegas to the Aerospace Department at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) is the first of a new emphasis on partnerships with Aviation Maintenance Technical schools across the United States. The grant was formally announced at the 48th Annual Aviation Technician Education Council Conference recently held in Las Vegas. Administered by the Northrop Rice Foundation, the award was presented by Judith Wurith, President of Rotorcraft Enterprises to Joe Hawkins, an Assistant Professor at MTSU. According to Hawkins, "MTSU is extremely pleased with the Rotorcraft Enterprises Start Pac Power equipment grant, which further demonstrates the commitment of both the Northrop Rice Foundation and Rotorcraft Enterprises to support the advancement of aviation maintenance training and careers."

MTSU is an approved Title 14 CFR Part 147 aviation maintenance technician school for airframe and power-plant maintenance. Incorporating new technologies so students are learning the knowledge and skills of the core aviation maintenance curriculum is an ongoing challenge for faculty. Participating in project-based lab activities along with experiential learning concepts students are introduced to the latest technological advances. These technological practicums are one of the many tools available to help students comprehend difficult course content while mastering a particular concept or skill.



According to Hawkins, the Rotorcraft Enterprises Start Pac battery and ground power units has become an integral part of several maintenance training classes, including airframe and powerplant inspection, systems and troubleshooting. In addition to providing ground power for maintenance trainers and shop related equipment, the Start Pac equipment also provides power for demonstrating the advanced avionics installed on the universities flight training fleet. Currently, MTSU training fleet consists of 25 planes from Diamond Aircraft and The New Piper Aircraft Inc. The majority of the aircraft are equipped with electronic flight displays along with Global Positioning Satellite systems, Traffic Collision Avoidance systems and NEXRAD Weather Radar. The Rotorcraft Enterprises Start Pac has proven ideal for powering up these aircraft equipped with advanced technology glass cockpits for ground instruction of new pilots and routine updates. When utilizing the Mini Portable Power Supply, the entire aircraft electrical system can be powered up for GPS programming or other electrical needs, saving the on board battery for engine starting.

The university also operates a King Air 200 as part of the Air Charter Lab that is available to Professional Pilot majors. The Rotorcraft Enterprises Start Pac battery is also used to power the King Air aircraft systems during routine checks as well as unscheduled maintenance. As Hawkins states: "The Rotorcraft Enterprises Start Pac battery really makes the rounds across our airport campus. Whether in a training lab, flight school maintenance or on the King Air, it has become a valuable piece of equipment."



Northrop Rice Foundation
Membership Application

<input type="checkbox"/>	Initial membership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewal

Name – First: _____ Last: _____

Company/School (if applicable): _____

Title (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

_____ Home address _____ Business address

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Your aviation affiliation: _____

Are you an alumni of Rice Aviation or Northrop? _____

Campus: _____ Year: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

CHECK ONE	TYPE	MEMBERSHIP VALUE	GIFT	FEE
	SCHOOL Aviation Maintenance Training Schools	-Opportunity to obtain equipment, manuals, materials from industry at no or reduced cost -Opportunity to participate in scholarships and awards -Assistance in tracking alumni -Help in continuing to support industry with trained technicians -Tax-deductible contribution	Framed Flying Wing Picture	\$100
	CORPORATE Aviation Industry	-Help support schools through the donation of equipment, manuals, materials -Tax-deductible contribution -Assist in enhancing the training of the technician work-	Framed Flying Wing Picture	\$300
	INDIVIDUAL A&P Technicians	-Opportunity to support maintenance training and the AMT career field -Provide a communication arena with industry technicians and schools	T-Shirt	\$25
	ASSOCIATE Other individuals Non A&P	-Opportunity to support the aviation maintenance career field -Opportunity to support continuing education for instructors and scholarships for new students	T-Shirt	\$25

Northrop Rice Foundation
957 Nasa Parkway #315
Houston, Texas 77058

Address Service Requested

NORTHROP RICE FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER
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NRF Board Member Highlight

Rita Daily serves as vice president of Boeing Shared Services Group (SSG) Business Support of Boeing Commercial Airplanes (BCA) and Boeing Capital Corporation (BCC). She was named to that position in January 2006. Shared Services Group is a 10,000–person functional unit of Boeing that provides about \$2.5 billion in services to other parts of the company, but processes many times that figure in payments and purchases. SSG provides common services to Boeing with the goal of creating a competitive advantage. These services include people services and benefits; security and fire protection; transportation; facilities; safety, health and environmental affairs; travel services; property management and the purchase of non–production goods and services.

Daily began her Boeing career in 1981 as a graphics illustrator for BCA's Customer Services Division. She spent the first 14 years of her career concentrating on all aspects of Business Support, including Training, Contracts, and Program Management. Subsequent years were focused on Financial Operations management assignments in Pricing, Accounting, and Business Management.

Daily completed Seattle University's Executive Leadership Program in April 2004. She also participated in the 2001 Columbia University Executive Program, and was a 1997 AIMS participant. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from City University, and an Associate of Arts degree in Accounting from Bellevue Community College.

Daily is married to Jeri Daily, who was also a Boeing manager. They have two sons.

Rita joined the NRF Board in 2007 and has been instrumental in the continued development of our Foundation mission and strategies that support the education and training of aviation personnel.