

# Piedmont People Learning by Degrees

Three nights a week, at the stroke of six, Winston-Salem employees, books in hand, become college degree candidates merely by taking a seat in a classroom at our Aerospace Institute.

These employees, enrolled in courses ranging from microeconomics to astronomy, are participating in an innovative program being offered by the Piedmont Area Evening Degree Association (PAEDA), a consortium of nine companies in the Winston-Salem area that was organized through Piedmont's leadership. The association's purpose is to offer employees — over 15,000 people — a convenient way to earn an undergraduate degree.

The formal four-year curriculum and faculty are provided by High Point College. Bachelor degrees in behavioral science, business administration, English/communication, psychology and sociology are offered to full-time employees of PAEDA members. Thirty-one Piedmont employees — 14 full-time (taking two courses) and 17 part-time (one course) — were enrolled in the program's first session last September.

"An employee can complete two courses by attending classes three evenings a week for eight consecutive weeks," explained Doug Smith, employee relations, who is serving as vice president for PAEDA.

"Six eight-week sessions are offered during the year, and classes begin at 6 p.m. and 7:50 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings," he said. "It's possible for an employee with no prior college credits to complete the requirements for a degree in only three and a half years."

Assistance is available through Piedmont's tuition aid program.

"Comments from the students have been very positive," said Smith. "We're also delighted with the hundreds of inquiries from companies and colleges across the country. We believe this is the only association of its kind, and we're excited about being a part of it."



Piedmont employees enrolled in an English class taught by a professor from High Point College are: (1st row, l to r) John Martin, CRO; J. D. Storch, Business Aircraft; Flight Attendant Kathy Presley; Ray Welch, Personnel. (2nd row) Brenda Peck, CRO; Phyllis Highsmith, CRO; Virginia Cooper, CRO; David Johnson, Purchasing. (3rd row) Billy Neal, Business Aircraft; and Don Tedder, CRO.

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Interested in getting your college degree but worried about meeting all the expenses? Want to take a course which will help you in your job but need some assistance?

More than 75 Piedmont employees from around the system went back to school last year and received financial assistance totaling more than \$10,000 under the Company's new tuition aid program.

The plan, effective March 1, 1980, is available to all permanent full-time and intermediate employees who have one year of continuous service with Piedmont.

If you're seeking a bachelor

degree, attending the Piedmont Aerospace Institute, or pursuing a masters degree directly related to your present job, you can receive up to \$500 a year in aid from Piedmont. Non-degree candidates are eligible for up to \$300 in aid. If you're interested in taking courses by correspondence or plan to participate in a seminar-type training program, you may be eligible to receive up to \$100 in benefits.

Your department head, department officer, and the vice president-employee relations must approve your courses before you begin class. Any accredited colleges and universities or state licensed business or technical schools are eligible. If location, work shift or travel requirements would keep you from classroom attendance, you may be eligible to take correspondence courses. Classes should not interfere with your regular job at Piedmont.

You'll be reimbursed for your course work depending on your grades. A grade of "A" or "B" will ensure 85 percent reimbursement; a "C" or "Pass," 60 percent; a "D," 50 percent, and for failed courses, no reimbursement. The Company will pay 50 percent of the cost for required textbooks when you successfully complete a course.

Any questions? Contact Doug Smith, employee relations, extension 360, INT.



It's cheaper by the dozen . . . . . that's what employees have found out who are participating in Piedmont's vanpooling program.

Each day, Monday through Friday, three 12-passenger vans provide commuter transportation for 32 employees who live at least 10 miles from the Winston-Salem offices. The benefits are numerous. The monthly fare is approximately one-third the cost of driving alone, parking problems are eliminated, and employees can sit back and relax to and from work.

Pictured is the "Plemmons Clemmons" van driven by Jim Plemmons, Stockroom, with riders (l to r) Susan Siefert, Joyce Meeks, and Sharon York (all in Accounting), and Roy Raines, Maintenance.

This spring Piedmont will be participating with other businesses in a ridesharing program sponsored by the City of Winston-Salem. Information on the project will soon be available for interested employees.

Any station that wants to establish a similar vanpool program should conduct a feasibility study first, taking into consideration work shifts, how close employees live to each other, and cost factors. In addition, a van must be at least 75% full before a real savings can be realized by an employee. Employees actually pay for the van through the fares.

Direct any questions you may have concerning such a program to Doug Smith, Ext. 360, INT.

## You can bank on a 737

Tired of checks that look like everyone else's? Now you can order checks for your own personal use with Piedmont's 737 in the background.

Bank checks have been created especially for Piedmont Airlines through Identity Check Company's "Plane Checks" program. You can have a more personalized check and one that promotes Piedmont. These checks are designed to meet the requirements of any bank.

To order, fill out the form below, write out your check, and include

a deposit slip from the same account. Be sure to include both a check and deposit slip so that your new checks will be compatible with your bank's computer and American Bank Association specifications. On gift orders, send your check and mark his/her check VOID.

Envelopes with a window in the top left hand corner to show your name and return address are available for mailing your checks. One hundred envelopes per 200 checks are suggested. Allow three to four weeks for delivery.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> RUSH SHIPPING & HANDLING (optional)                               |   | \$ (3.00)                   |
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