

Long Lines

Memphis — Maintenance became the first station to ever have a perfect attendance record for the year when the 1973 results were tabulated. There were actually 97 maintenance employees, systemwide, who were at work every single day last year. Congratulations are definitely in order. The entire department posted a 15 per cent perfect attendance record!

Golfers get ready

The Fifth Annual Piedmont Golf Tournament will be held this year, 1974, at Myrtle Beach. The dates are September 30-October 2. So all interested employees should keep those dates open. Full details will be announced closer to the time but if you like more information now contact Frank Perry, INT-Dispatch or Sherl Fogler, INT-Sales.

Social security goes up

Employees will have noticed in their first pay checks of 1974 that the price of Social Security is one of the many things that continues to rise. The percentage to be paid as Social Security tax remains unchanged at 5.85 per cent. But the amount of the taxable base has been increased from \$10,800 to \$12,600 of annual gross income, or a maximum of \$737.10.

Credit union meets

The annual meeting of the Piedmont Aviation Credit Union was held on January 29 in Winston-Salem at the Holiday Inn North. There were 104 members, including 20 station representatives, in attendance. President H. K. Scott announced that membership had increased by 542 since December, 1972. Total assets had increased by \$841,393.27 to a total of \$5,168,629.02 as of December 31, 1973.

Elected as directors for two year terms were Horace P. Chatham, Lewis H. Hand, Robert W. Kadlec and Audree F. Long. Janice Lawton was elected to the Credit Committee for a two year term.

The new officers for 1974 are Audree F. Long, President; Lucien P. Wrenn, First Vice President; Robert W. Kadlec, Second Vice President; Wilma Cook, Secretary; and George Price, Treasurer.



The last class of stewardess graduates included, from left, Debbie Earle, Brenda Adams, Lisa Tolerton, Pat Boyette and Brenda Hunt.

New officers elected

The Air Traffic Conference of the Air Transport Association has elected new officers. Eastern's Frank Sharpe was named president of the group. Piedmont Vice President—Sales W. G. McGee was elected first vice president and L. A. Person of Braniff, second vice president. The Air Traffic Conference is concerned with marketing and customer service policies and procedures for all the U.S. scheduled airlines.

He doesn't drive, he flies

After more than 18 years of continuous flying, Arthur Luther of 315 Spruce Street in Winston-Salem is still going strong.

Luther started in 1955 at Central Piedmont Aero in a 90 horsepower Piper PA-18. Bill O'Neal was his first flight instructor.



Arthur Luther receives his solo plaque.

The 54 year old Luther doesn't have a driver's license but he manages to get to the airport every Saturday, except when the weather is too bad. Once when the bus lines were on strike he even walked the eight mile round trip.

Through the years other kinds of airplanes have been available to Luther but he has never flown anything but Pipers. He was recently honored by the folks at Piedmont's Piper office. They gave him a plaque with his picture and the date he soloed on it.

Safety wins

Piedmont Aviation won top honors in the 1973 Southern Region Air Carrier Aviation Mechanic Awards Program sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration. Piedmont's Frank Barnes was the regional winner. R. G. Boggs, also of Piedmont, was first runner-up.

The special award qualifies Frank for membership in the prestigious Aviation Mechanics Club.

Frank won his award for discovering and correcting a malfunction built into the fire detection system on the Boeing 737 aircraft. He will compete with the winners from the other AAF regions for the title of National Air Carrier Aviation Mechanic of the Year. The grand winner will be selected in March.

In acknowledging the awards President Davis said "this is indeed deserved recognition, since Mr. Barnes and Mr. Boggs are both outstanding and dedicated aviation mechanics."

In other happenings in the Safety Department, hearing tests are being given for all



Frank Barnes was our regional FAA safety winner.

maintenance employees. All Winston-Salem based personnel are scheduled for a conductive hearing test annually. Line station men are given their tests during recurrent training in Winston. Complete and accurate testing takes only about 15 minutes. Individual records are kept even after termination or retirement.

Complaint record improves

In the final tally for 1973 Piedmont lost its number one spot among the regionals in the Civil Aeronautics Board's Consumer Complaint Report. Although we had the best record for nearly two years, it appears Frontier came out on top for '73. The January '74 report showed Piedmont well ahead of Frontier, but slightly behind North Central. We were fourth in the industry as a whole, with Delta first and Continental second. That's good company to be in, but wouldn't you rather be on top? Let's work at it!

Airport in a garden opens

Dedication ceremonies in mid-January heralded the opening of the new Norfolk Regional Airport. It is the only such facility in the world to be located inside a botanical garden.

The regional airport, which serves southern Tidewater Virginia and upper North Carolina, features a new 325,000 square foot terminal located within the perimeters of Norfolk's famous Gardens-by-the-sea.

A huge earth ledge was built up around the airport's edges to separate it from the gardens. It has been planted thickly with trees and shrubs shielding the gardens from airport sights and sounds.

The terminal itself blends into the natural setting, with both interior and exterior finishes borrowing their colors from the surrounding woodlands.

The parking lots are largely hidden by groves of trees. All utility and power lines are buried.

The garden or natural theme carries over into the interior. There are four real live ficus trees inside the central lobby of the passenger terminal. Woodsy tones of brown, bronze, and beige are the predominant colors. The entire public area is carpeted as are many of the walls, to absorb sound. Acoustically treated windows look out over the surrounding gardens.

The lighting is soft and diffused, giving a roomy atmosphere rather than a harsh, bright commercial feeling.

Passengers with time between flights can