

In the Spotlight



AMH First Open House Ever

By Jessica Lindsey, Director of Admissions

AMH hosted their first open house ever. As the students approached they were greeted with a barbecue, moonwalk, and friendly faces. When the student entered they were escorted on an interactive tour of the campus with the instructors hosting various stopping stations in the hanger among the following was a tour of the Jet star, DC-6, and a detailed explanation of the different components of the hanger. After the students were given a tour they were given a presentation of the school and program. Upon conclusion of the presentation the representatives spent time getting to know the students. Each student was given a welcome packet and scheduled for a future activity. The Open House was a huge success and we had current students as well as new student participate to make this a positive experience for all.



Student Jose Suarez & his family, Peter Hogaboom, & Trai Hicks



Suarez Family in the bounce house

Admissions Staff: (from left to right) Marcia Mitchell, Cindy Crowell, Trai Hicks, NaTasha Goodwin & Jessica Lindsey





AIM Participates in 2011 Maintenance Skills Competition

By David Jones, AIM Director of Education

The 4th Annual Maintenance Skills Competition was held at the Las Vegas Convention Center on February 23rd and 24th this year. There were 26 teams competing. The competitors represented every major facet of aviation including military, airlines, general aviation, and AMT schools. International competitors this year included Australia, China and Mexico. For the third year, Aviation Institute of Maintenance fielded four teams, with members representing a majority of our 10 locations.

The AMTSociety Maintenance Skills Competition gives teams of licensed AMTs, AMEs, students and Armed Forces personnel an opportunity to test their combined abilities against their peers. The competition provides an opportunity to showcase the knowledge, skill and integrity that each aviation technician possesses.

With increasing visibility, and acknowledging the always present competitive spirit in the aviation shop, teams are being selected by companies and schools from the best of their best. To secure a position on a team in this competition, the technician has been identified as a super performer in their shop. Events designed to test their knowledge, skills and ability to perform under pressure are used to sort the good from the great.

When the dust cleared, AIM Team Atlanta took the second place award in the AMT School Division. This was somewhat disappointing for the Atlanta crew since they had taken home first place in the previous two years. Unseating a two time winner is more reflective of how stiff the competition is getting to be, and less a statement about the teams overall performance. The AIM teams did well, even if they didn't bring home the gold this year. Their performance was high quality, but not quick enough for a timed competition. All of the students came back winners in that they chalked up an experience that very few even get invited to. There was ample opportunity for networking and for the students to see where in the industry they might want to go after graduation.

There is already talk going on at the AIM campuses about how they want to field a sharper honed team next year. It looks like the competition for students aspiring to attend next year's competition will be pretty stiff. Organizers report that event descriptions should be available earlier next year, to give teams more time to prepare. That's good news for the AIM schools, but also means that competing schools have more time too! For more information about of Atlanta's winning team read "History Behind the AIM-Atlanta Skills Team."



In the Spotlight

Houston Campus Hosts the EAA Workshops

12/10/10-On the weekend of December 4th and 5th, the Aviation Institute of Maintenance's Houston campus hosted the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association)'s annual SportAir Workshops.

The event was attended by over 30 people that participated in courses from Fabric Covering and Composite Construction to Sheet Metal Basics and Electrical Systems & Avionics and for the first time, Gas Welding. EAA provides all the materials and instructors, while the aviation school supplies the facility. "This is an awesome opportunity to reach the community and show off our campus," states Director of Compliance and Administration, Anna Kutchi.

EAA also offers a \$500 scholarship to an Aviation Institute of Maintenance student. The student will be chosen by December 22nd, 2010. Many thanks to Mark Forss and the EAA members and class attendees.



In the Spotlight

RICE NORTHROP FOUNDATION NAMES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

(6/30/10) - Felix Yanez is the recipient of the Rice Northrop Foundations \$600.00 scholarship. An AMT Student with the Houston Campus, Felix has been working diligently to acquire his A&P certification; despite running his own Tree trimming Business and helping his wife Maria care for their 3 Month Old son, Isaac.

Felix tells us, "I like working with my hands and have always wondered who maintains the aircraft I see overhead." Felix hopes to one day own his own aviation business, "either selling aircraft parts or running a small repair shop". Felix is originally from Burlington, New Jersey, but several years ago mom decided Jersey's cold winters were beginning to pay their toll, so she packed up the whole family and moved them to Houston. The second oldest of five children, Felix began his quest for owning his own business at the tender age of 16, now five years later it's become a fact. If his current achievements are any indication of what's yet to come, we can expect to hear great things about Felix in the Future and about his contributions to the Aviation Industry.



Kori Cunningham

(9/1/09) - Kori Cunningham has been a student at the Aviation Institute of Maintenance since January 2009. In her pursuit to gain certification as an Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) she has proven herself to be well prepared for the task at hand. A rigorist course that takes you through every facet of aircraft maintenance and power plant (A&P), Kori has managed to maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.83, despite raising a family and contending with a full-time schedule at home and at school. Kori has just been notified that she is the receipt of a \$3,000 scholarship from Wings Over Houston.

"Kori is often times sought out by her peers for assistance when assignments are a little more than they can handle. Without hesitation she will put everything aside to help them get through the lesson. Her participation with the student council has been instrumental in improving services for our student body, states School Director, David Martinez-Sierra.

The Wings Over Houston (WOH) is typically an airshow but has also established a scholarship program for college students who have completed their second year of study in aviation or a related field. The WOH scholarships are intended to assist and reward students who have demonstrated academic potential, leadership, and extracurricular involvement.



In the Spotlight

Houston Aviation School Graduates Inaugural Class

HOUSTON, TX (9/14/09) – On August 28, 2009, the Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AIM) graduated their first class since acquiring the school from Redstone College, in June 2007. The graduation was held at the 1940 Air Terminal Museum and was attended by over 120 of the graduates' friends and family.

The commencement speaker was Mary Case, the William P. Hobby airport manager, and gave a moving speech emphasizing that "you can reach anything that you set your mind to." The valedictorians of the graduating class were Veronica Puentes, a daytime student and Xavier Zeal, an evening student. At the end of the ceremony, the valedictorians led the group in stating the Mechanic's Creed. "All in all, it was an evening to remember. I am very proud of the first graduating class of AIM," states school director, David Martinez-Sierra.

