Message From the President

Hello, TWO Members, Supporters, and Friends

As I write this message, I am thinking about fall – a time of change. The weather gets crisper and cooler, the leaves start to change from green to orange and brown, we change from shorts and sandals to pants and sweaters, and the days become shorter and shorter. It’s also a change in other ways – the fiscal year is anew, we are usually in a continuing resolution, and we are wondering what the future will bring.

This fall is a strange one for us at the FAA. We hear predictions about lack of funding and we are undergoing major reorganizations. We may be changing bosses, some are changing locations, and some may be journeying onward due to early retirement. Instead of calling it strange, I should call it exciting, although I know that some don’t see it that way. It is definitely challenging, with a “wait and see” attitude for many. In Headquarters we have gone through a variety of emotions as the changes have unfolded, and I am sure many of you have or will as well. Next, we should move from a time of concern to a time for solutions. We know we can become innovative and creative; we know we can create a new order and balance after the change. We always have, we always will.

It is with those thoughts of change, creativity, and challenge that I bring you strength and support from your colleagues throughout the TWO network. We are a strong group who has bonded together to help each other through the interesting career and organizational voyage at the FAA. In the Air Traffic Organization transition team meeting recently, it was stated that there is no “end state,” as we are always changing and evolving. So we roll with the change, make career course adjustments as necessary, and evolve with the needs of the organization. All is well, no matter what is happening around us. We do our job and do it well – that’s what matters in the end. All the rest is extra. Remember the basics and you will be well.

To our journey – and happy fall!

Marcia V. Corey
President, Technical Women’s Organization
Goodbye, and Thank You...

New volunteers join the board and bring fresh energy and new perspectives to TWO. This means that we must say goodbye to our former board members who worked so hard and brought so much to TWO. A special “thank-you” to Debbie Cervantes, former Vice-President; Vicki Richard, former Treasurer; and Patricia Walker, former Editor. TWO could not continue to grow and serve its members without the dedication and commitment of members who step up to work for it.

National Officers for TWO:

Vice President Mary Ann Keller

Mary Ann Keller is a Radar technician at West Mesa Long Range Radar, west of Albuquerque, New Mexico. She started her technical career when she enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, in 1977, as an airborne avionics specialist. Mary Ann worked at Missouri Research Labs, Signetics Corporation, and the Dept. of Defense, before joining the FAA in 1991.

She joined TWO in 1994, and has been active in the organization ever since, as the ASW regional representative, as proxy for numerous executive board members, and as a committee member.

She is the 2005 TWO conference committee chairperson, for next year’s conference in Albuquerque.

Mary Ann’s hobbies and interests include camping, classic cars, photography, flying, skiing, gardening, and traveling. She and her husband have been married 25 years, and have two boys, 17 and 22.

Mary Ann is extremely honored to have been elected Vice President for our organization. She wishes to support our current membership, by bringing to them a better product in TWO, while preserving our original intent, and yet still grow both in membership and vision.

Treasurer Beverly Anderson

Beverly Anderson is a Data Systems Specialist at the Chicago Center. She maintains the hardware and software on the administrative local area network. She just finished a temporary promotion as an Environmental Engineer at the Great Lakes Regional Office where she designed specifications for fuel storage tanks and environmental cleanups.

Beverly holds a geological engineering degree and has been working for the FAA for six years. She was the Great Lakes Region TWO representative for the last 4 years, and has been an active member of the Board. She was a guest editor for the Circuit, and she was part of the Reno conference committee last year.

As if raising two teenage sons wasn’t challenging enough, Beverly also competes in triathlons. Her commitment and attention to detail will be great assets as Treasurer.

Mary Ann has so much energy and enthusiasm it motivates those around her. TWO is very fortunate to have her working on our Board of Directors!

Mary Ann Keller
TWO Vice President

Beverly Anderson
TWO Treasurer
National Officers for TWO:

Editor    Laura Helm

Laura Helm is a NAVAIDs and Communications technician, currently working as a technical evaluator for the Western-Pacific Region. She started her FAA career at Los Angeles Airport, and then spent 11 years at Santa Barbara Airport. Before joining the FAA, Laura was a communications technician for the U.S. Marine Corps.

Laura’s current work involves lots of traveling to different facilities to complete evaluations. She enjoys meeting the technicians in different places and seeing where they work. She has also traveled to facilities to assist with troubleshooting and optimizing VORs. She taught two evaluator classes last year, including one in Seoul, Korea to assist that country in starting an evaluator program similar to the one in the U.S.

When she isn’t traveling, Laura works from her “alternate work location”, the home she shares with her 3 dogs. She says “it is wonderful to balance the weeks away in hotels with a week or two working at home.”

Laura was the Western Pacific TWO representative for 3 years before becoming Editor, and was the conference chairperson for last year’s conference in Reno, NV. She believes the scholarship program is a great member benefit, and wants to strengthen the opportunities for our members career growth, education, and networking.

President  Marcia Corey
Secretary  Bernadette Ohlemacher

Elections held each year replace 1/2 of the board members. The president and the secretary have already served the first year of their terms. Overlapping the terms ensures the Board always has experienced members as new ones join, and is in accordance with the By-Laws.

Marcia Corey is an employee services manager in Technical Operations at Headquarters, and previously served as Headquarters representative. She has been a driving force in building a mentor program at headquarters, and is assisting in building programs in the regions.

Bernadette Ohlemacher is a Logistics Management Specialist at Rio Grande SMO. She is greatly appreciated for her terrific recordkeeping skills that help the Board keep track of everything discussed and decided.
My Impressions: TWO Conference 2004

By Sheryl A. Matthews, Northwest Mountain Region

My Impressions: TWO Conference 2004

Where can I begin talking about the TWO Conference? Let me begin with my expectations in going to this conference. It was my first conference and I didn’t have much in the way of expectations. I didn’t really plan to network. I was not looking for someone to “hook me up”. However I was looking to see if I could get a different perspective on this FAA. Well I got that and so much more. It was truly tremendous. All instructors in the training courses were excellent. However, I did have seminars that I was especially enamored with. They were so very relevant to my job and the future of my job.

I will briefly mention some of these seminars. The Tongue Fu seminar presenter Tweet Coleman brought communication to me in a scientific manner. I learned concrete methods of presenting myself, specific phases and words to use, and patterns of communication. Tweet was so fresh and “lively” in her approach.

Then there were the technical seminars: Introduction to GPS, WAAS and LAAS, Introduction to Radio Frequency Interference (RFI), and Techniques in Finding and Eliminating RFI. The presenter of these three seminars was Nelson Spohnheimer. To have Nelson as an instructor for any technical course is a treat. He is so informed and is an entertaining instructor. When you sit through a class of his have your pencil ready and your mind on focus.

Seminar FAA 101 with presenter Gloria Snowden: History, Organization, Structure and Strategic Plan. Gloria was so informed about the organization, the make up and persons in particular positions in the organization. Her seminar was not only very informative but the way she conducted the seminar was very different and entertaining. I left her class with a definite goal of being more aware of the past and current makeup of FAA with an emphasis on a changing FAA. A new concept for me--my job in Tech Ops as a 2101 is just a small part of a very big pie. Knowledge is key. The challenge is to know not only your job, but have knowledge of the organization as a “whole”. Goal: Become more informed about this organization, more aware of the “big picture”.

The last seminar I’ll mention is the Future State of Technical Operations Service Unit with presenter Maureen “Mo” Woods. First, her “regular demeanor” impressed me, I felt like I knew her. She gave me that “down home” type of feeling, yet she was very professional and polished in her manner. I totally did not expect to be so engrossed in her presentation. You have to know what changes are taking place. The present culture of thought to which the organization is subscribing. Mo brought all that very relevant information right up front for me. One of her favorite quotes by author Price Pritchett “Invent the future instead of trying to redesign the past” is a quote I can presently relate to at this point in my career. I am reading one of the books she recommended. My quest to become a more informed employee is on. I made a personal investment in my future and its already paying off.

The structure of the conference was well put together. The hour before the conference began each morning there was a continental breakfast. You had time to just mingle with people who happened to be executives, people from other regions and every area of the FAA, in fact anybody and everybody who’s anybody in the FAA.

Continued on page 5
My Impressions...

The lunch with your region was an inspiration. I met other people in my region and I met my Assistant Division Manager Vianne Fowler. I talked to her before I knew what her position was and I found her to be “just” a person. What a concept!

“The Management Reception was such a networking tool, it was outstanding. The food was good but the networking was tremendous. I really liked the fact that it was informal and right after the close of the workday. The emphasis was on making connections.

I also took note of the fact that many men were in attendance at the TWO conference. I have eight brothers and I was in the Marine Corps for a few years. Men in support of women in support of the FAA can only make for a stronger, better, more unified organization...”

“Men in support of women in support of the FAA can only make for a stronger, better, more unified organization...”

facing the future of this organization and this country.

It was my first conference and it offered me so much more than I expected. Thank-you TWO. I have already spoken to a few people about the conference. It offered me what I needed and I feel TWO can offer others what they need. I personally thank the executives that came and shared at the conference. It was so encouraging. I’m recommitted and rededicated to becoming the best FAA employee I am capable of being. The FAA is an organization that is growing and changing and I want to be prepared to face the challenges that I will face in the FAA. I did not come to the conference with networking as “priority”; it was a natural occurrence of the TWO conference. I am working on my IDP and one of my goals is – be more involved with TWO. It is a good investment.

Editor’s Note: Sheryl volunteered to sing at our closing banquet, and entertained us with 2 beautiful songs. I’m hoping she will attend next year’s conference also!

The 2005 Conference Committee invites you to...

ALBUQUERQUE
JUNE 20 – 24, 2005

For more information:
Mary.Ann.Keller@faa.gov
www.itsatrip.org
www.newmexico.org

See you there!
TWO Members in the News

Teresa Hudson has been named the Eastern Service Area Director. The Eastern Service Area will encompass what used to be the New England, Eastern, and Southern Regions. Teresa started out as an electronics technician in 1977. She worked her way up through a variety of positions until becoming the Assistant Division Manager for Airway Facilities in Great Lakes Region in 1999, and then the Division Manager for Airway Facilities in Central Region in 2001. One of her employees described her as “She walks around the office with a welcoming smile yet focused on the business at hand.”

Along with the changes in the Eastern and Central Service Areas, the Western Service Area will join the Alaska, Northwest-Mountain, and Western-Pacific Regions. Ed Moy is the Director for the Western Service Area. Each service area goes into effect October 1, 2004.

Technical Information for the Field

It's Friday afternoon, and you've finished your maintenance for today. It's too late to start the maintenance on another piece of equipment, and it's time to wind down before the weekend. To make this time productive, why not check out some of the technical sites available on the intranet?

The technet site has a recent addition—the tab on the far right labeled “TEX”. This is a site set up for technicians and engineers to share their troubleshooting problems and other technical information about specific pieces of equipment. Everyone is invited to add new items or comment on existing items. The operational support engineers review the additions for accuracy before they are posted. Join this dialog with technicians and engineers across the country, and learn something new. There just might be a comment there that helps you with a problem at one of your sites.

http://technet.faa.gov  “TEX”

Another information source is the Western Pacific group of newsletters. There are many newsletters for the Environmental field, and the NAVAIDS newsletter has just been started. They are a great source of information, and the authors welcome comments and information from the readers.

ftp://172.24.0.10/nastep  “Newsletters”

If you know of other technical information sites, please contact the Circuit editor for posting in the next issue.
TWO Mission

To increase the number of qualified women in technical fields and to maximize the contributions of technical women in the Federal Aviation Administration.

TWO Vision

Technical women within the FAA utilize our organization as a powerful courageous voice for change. Our technical expertise and leadership skills contribute to the overall effectiveness of the FAA mission. By providing a supportive community for all FAA employees and promoting diversity, we shape the FAA of tomorrow.

Calendar Items
See the TWO Website for more information.

October
Disability Awareness Month (NCFAED)
11 Columbus Day
14 to 18 Board of Directors Meeting
31 Daylight Savings Time Ends (fall back)

November
Native American Heritage Month (NAAN)
11 Veteran’s Day
25 Thanksgiving Day

December
8 Hanukkah Begins
25 Christmas Day
26 Kwanzaa Begins

We’re On The Web!
http://two.faa.gov

TWO Committees—Working for Our Members

The Technical Women’s Organization has many committees set up to work on specific program areas. Each committee has a chairperson, and members to assist them fulfill their mission. If you would like to be a part of working for TWO, please contact the chairperson for the committee.

2005 Conference
Mary Ann Keller, ASW
Brenda Smith-Keene, AMA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Bylaws
Brenda Smith-Keene, AMA
Candy Close, AGL
Sheila Griffin, ASO
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Frank Cullen, AEA

Education & Development
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Marketing
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Membership
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Nomination & Elections
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Recruitment
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Publicity
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Webmaster
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Facilitator
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA

Historian
Clarissa Holland, AEA
Cynthia Noble, AWA
Stacey Zinke, AMA
Lynn Strazzini, AWA
Clarissa Holland, AEA