

Spirit of NRF

Newsletter of the Northrop Rice Foundation

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Message From The President



Kevin Gulliver

If you were living in the 1890s you would have never stepped into an elevator without an operator on board. Today you don't give it a second thought. You call for the elevator, the doors open, you walk in, you press a button, and presto; the doors open and you are at the floor you selected. In the 1940s you would have refused to board a train that didn't have an engineer up front. Today Disney World, and just about all International airports, move thousands of people a day on trains without engineers...or any operator for that matter.

So now we are in the 21st century. Space craft are flying to the International Space Station; unmanned. Aircraft are patrolling borders, filming movie scenes, and carrying packages; unmanned. Even automobiles are beginning to show signs of autonomy. It will soon be common place to get in your vehicle, tell the virtual driver where you would like to go, and then relax during the trip. And as for passenger flights? I don't think they are far behind the unmanned aerial vehicle movement.

But, from elevators to aircraft, one thing remains in common with all of these technologies, the great need for the technician. We are seeing technical schools putting out thousands of technicians with industry demanding more. As I travel from coast to coast visiting technical schools I am told time and again that the students are being hired before they have completed their technical program. In aviation, this is less common due to the FAA licensing requirements; however, I am seeing students working in aircraft manufacturing while they go to school or work towards certifications.

Yes, no matter how automated the aviation business becomes, we will always need technicians. The Northrop Rice Foundation is working hard to help the aviation industry meet their demands for new technicians. We provided more in scholarships this year than ever before and we are working with several aviation-related companies to assist them in providing scholarships, training programs, and aviation equipment donations to support their industry. If you are not currently a member of the Northrop Rice Foundation, visit our web site and join up. We are looking forward to helping you become, or help others become, a much needed aviation technician.

Northrop Rice Foundation Membership Application

We invite schools, corporations and individuals to join our non-profit foundation.

Please fill out the membership application at:

[www.northropicefoundation.org/pdfs/NRF_membership.pdf](http://www.northropricefoundation.org/pdfs/NRF_membership.pdf)

Northrop Rice Foundation:
713-644-6616 • Fax: 281-334-0335
www.northropicefoundation.org

For information about foundation activities or programs, visit www.northropicefoundation.org or email Cathy Landry at clandry@northropicefoundation.org.

Aerospace Maintenance Competition (AMC) at MRO Dallas April 5-7

At the MRO Americas trade show, a corner of the exhibition will once again be in the spotlight with sounds of buzzers, loud horns and audience cheers. All this commotion will be for the now "famous" Aerospace Maintenance Competition 2016.

This year, 59 teams of the best certified aircraft maintenance technicians, aircraft maintenance engineers, students enrolled in authorized schools, personnel from various countries' armed forces and uncertificated aircraft technicians employed with MRO/OEM companies will compete to be the best in various events that are a combination of aviation knowledge, trouble shooting and maintenance practices.

If you are the MRO trade show, drop by and cheer your teams as they compete to win the coveted William F."Bill" O'Brien Award for Excellence. The competition was put together by the Honorable John Goglia who served as board member of NTSB and Ken MacTiernan, director of the Aircraft Maintenance Technicians Association and present NRF board member. George Miller, another NRF board member will also participate as an AMC event judge.

In Memoriam – Mary Alice Rice



Mary Alice Rice

Mary Alice Rice, beloved wife of James W. Rice passed away peacefully on January 26, 2016 at her home surrounded by loving family.

Mary Alice was born in Sabetha KS on November 23, 1932. She attended St. Peter and Paul grade and high school in Seneca KS and Benedictine College in Atchison KS. She worked for Braniff Airways in Kansas City where she met and married James W. Rice in 1956.

In 1967 she followed her husband to California and then to Houston to participate in the moon landing effort. In 1972 she and her husband Jim started Rice Aviation (later renamed Northrop Rice USA Inc.) She was the Chief Executive officer for 44 years.

Mary Alice was actively involved in many organizations including the Northrop Rice Foundation, Aviation Technician Education Council, Interfaith Caring Ministries, Association of Women in Aviation and Church Women United. Her philanthropic efforts have been with these and other organizations including Indian educational centers and U.S. national parks.

NRF 2016 Awards and Scholarship Recipients to be announced at ATEC

NRF received a significant number of applications for the awards and scholarships from highly deserving candidates. According to Vince Jones, head of the selection committee, "This year the selection committee was challenged to find the most qualified recipients and after analyzing the applicants through a rigorous qualification process, the committee decided on the winners. The names of the recipients will be announced at the upcoming Aviation Technician Education Council (ATEC) conference, held April 9-12 in Atlanta."

The following are the categories up for recognitions:

James Rardon AMT Student of the Year

Sponsor: Northrop Rice Foundation and Aviation Technician Education Council – *1 student winner*

Aviation Maintenance Training Scholarship

Sponsor: Northrop Rice Foundation – *9 student winners*

Aviation Maintenance Training Scholarship

Sponsor: Aeronautical Repair Station Association – *1 student winner*

International Student Aviation Maintenance Training Scholarship

Sponsor: Aventure Aviation – *1 student winner*

Aviation Maintenance Training Scholarship

Sponsor: Aventure Aviation – *2 student winners*

Aviation Maintenance Textbook sets

Sponsor: Avotek LLC – *5 student winners*

Aviation Maintenance Textbook sets

Sponsor: Airplane Technical Book Company – *5 student winners*

Snap-On Tool Boxes

Sponsor: Snap-On Inc. – *5 student winners*

Dale Hurst Financial Assistance Scholarship

Sponsor: Avotek LLC – *1 instructor winner*

King Air Maintenance Course Scholarship

Sponsor: Flight Safety International – *1 instructor winner*

Aviation Maintenance Training System

Sponsor: Nida Corporation – *1 technical school winner*

Model 532025 Start Pac Power Supply

Sponsor: Rotorcraft Enterprises – *1 technical school winner*

The Northrop Rice Foundation Newsletter will be published three times a year. If you have any suggestions on articles or information you would like to see, please contact northpricfoundation.org or Cathy Landry at clandry@northpricfoundation.org.