



# Plane Talk

## Aviation Institute of Maintenance Newsletter

VOLUME 30, SUMMER 2020

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### COVID-19 Can't Stop AIM - Manassas From Being Neighborly!

By: AIM - Manassas



On a cold and rainy April afternoon, the staff at AIM-Manassas had the privilege of providing lunch for healthcare workers at the Arbor Memory Care and Nursing home.

cases of COVID-19. However, the healthcare heroes darned their safety shields, face mask, and gloves to provide quality of life for the residents.

**“This moment in time brings neighbors, friends, family and even strangers closer together through charitable giving and support.”**

These healthcare heroes tirelessly provide support to members of our community who suffer from memory loss and other illnesses. The staff, doctors, and nurses deliver the care needed for members of our neighborhood who can no longer care for themselves.

During the worst of the Pandemic, the nursing facility had 13 known

On this day, AIM-Manassas, teamed up with a local deli to bring sandwiches, chips, water and cookies to the staff. However, AIM Manassas brought more than lunch. We brought acknowledgment of the hard work these folks are doing; we brought cheers of gratitude and well wishes, along with an understanding of the dangers and the hard work the employees face every day. This moment in time brings neighbors, friends, family and even strangers closer together through charitable giving and support. AIM-Manassas realized many of the heroes in this facility are not going home to their loved ones, to protect them from the virus. So, we as a campus wanted to say, through food, THANK YOU for your sacrifice and all that you do!

### AIM Host STEM Summer Camp

By: Jul DeGeus



Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AIM) will be offering a glimpse into the world of aircraft maintenance through its annual Jet Tech Summer Aviation Maintenance Camp at select campuses.

Camp participants will spend time in AIM's hangars, classrooms, and labs, learning about the basics of aviation maintenance. Topics covered will include aircraft systems and powerplants, ground operations, safety wiring, physics of flight, and much more. This is the perfect opportunity for individuals who are interested in working with their hands. The camp will also provide a preview of the skills aviation maintenance technicians perform after obtaining their certification.

#### Camp dates and locations are as follows:

Atlanta Metro campus	July 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Houston campus	June 26 – 30 or July 31 – Aug. 4 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. daily
Philadelphia campus	July 6-10, July 13-17, and July 20-24 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

“Here at AIM, we strive to educate today's youth about the important field of aviation maintenance,” says Ben Sitton, Campus Executive Director at AIM's Atlanta metro campus. “Our Jet Tech Summer Camp is an excellent opportunity to do just that...to expose young boys and girls to a potential career path that otherwise may not have ever crossed their minds.”

AIM's Jet Tech Summer Camp is open to upcoming high school graduates and rising high school seniors. Individuals interested in enrolling into the camp should contact the appropriate campus.



## AIM - Manassas Goes Virtual With Lunch & Learns

By: Samantha Choe



During COVID-19 Career Services Coordinator, Lauree Fuentes hosts virtual Lunch & Learn with students, faculty and employers

With all the changes on campus, AIM - Manassas wanted to keep the students and graduates engaged while we all adjusted to distance learning. AIM - Manassas worked quickly to get employers on board with Virtual Lunch & Learns. Lauree Fuentes, Career Services Coordinator Lauree Fuentes, worked closely with Hi-Tek Professionals, Gulf Stream, and Launch Technical Workforce

Technical Workforce Solutions chose to host their first Virtual Lunch & Learn on May 14, 2020.

In preparation for the Virtual Lunch & Learn, Lauree Fuentes, Career Services Coordinator, made the event mandatory for all students and graduates. Lauree scheduled pre-Lunch & Learn meetings with both employers so they both would be comfortable using the Go-To-Meeting software. During these meetings, the employers and Lauree reviewed the topics to be discussed.

On the day of the presentations, the employers presented to both day and night shift classes. AIM - Manassas had between 80-100 students and graduates sign in virtually to watch and listen to the presentation. Once the display from the employer was complete, there was time for questions and answers. Many students and graduates used this time to ask questions and engage with the employer. Students and graduates reached out to Ms. Lauree and Mrs. Marion Cohen, Campus Executive Director, to tell them how much they liked the presentations and appreciated the virtual Lunch & Learns during the distance learning strategy. They felt encouraged to keep moving forward to become Certified A&P mechanics.

**“On the day of the presentations, the employers presented to both day and night shift classes. AIM Manassas had between 80-100 students and graduates sign in virtually to watch and listen to the presentation.”**

to present students and graduates a discussion platform for aviation industry outlooks during COVID 19. Career opportunities as A&P mechanics, avionics technicians, and resume/interview preparation were all discussed.

Hi-Tek Professionals agreed to host, for the first time, a Virtual Lunch & Learn for students and graduates on April 20, 2020.

## AIM Donates Laptops to Schools in Uganda and Norfolk

By: Nicole Gleaton



Aviation Institute of Maintenance, Centura College, and Tidewater Tech have teamed together to donate 60 laptop computers to Kiwoko Citizen's Private School in Uganda and Azalea Gardens Middle School in Norfolk. By working together with the headmaster and principal of the two schools, the colleges have worked to provide hardware, software, and instructional projects that will unite school children around the world in studying cultural research, writing, business technology, and communication.

The project launched with the Executive Vice President of the institutions, Dr. Joel English, worked alongside his brother, Dr. James English, who is a professor of Biology, to support international learning within the developing country of Uganda. James was conducting research in Uganda's remote villages, studying how pathogens passed from livestock to people through cattle parasites. He came across a 12-year old orphan named Sharon, who spent her days tending to cattle in a small homestead. She was unable to attend school without family to fund her education. James decided he wanted to help Sharon and support the school, in whatever way he could. As James got to know Sharon, he realized that, "sometimes our limits are not a shortage of resources, ideas, or goodwill, but rather an understanding of how we can help others: we often just don't know how we can help or what role we can play to support others."

After helping Sharon with the costs associated with enrolling into the Kiwoko Citizen's Private School, James

got to know the school's Headmaster. He inquired about the school's needs, and the Headmaster stated that the school had a lack of teaching technologies, and that they were in dire need of laptop computers. James turned to his brother, Joel, who heads the group of career colleges in the United States. Joel's solution was to not only provide a 30-laptop computer lab to Kiwoko Citizen's Private School, but to also provide a computer lab to Azalea Gardens Middle School, a local public school near the institution's home office in Southeastern Virginia. Joel worked with the Board Chair of Norfolk Public Schools and the Azalea Gardens Middle School principal to identify faculty to not only accept the computer donation but to work with faculty at Kiwoko Citizen's Private School to develop classroom projects and collaborative research assignments between the students who live worlds apart. Joel stated, "We hope the classrooms in Uganda and Virginia will interact, write to each other, and study each other's cultures using the same technologies, to broaden the context and meaning of what both groups of students learn. We are deeply committed to supporting the communities we serve. These days, though, 'community' has taken on a global meaning. We're thrilled to be able to support the Kiwoko Citizen's Private School in Uganda and the young scholars here at home."

AIM, Centura College, and Tidewater Tech shipped the laptops at the end of May, and they have arrived in Uganda. They will reach Kiwoko on June 27th, when the school reopens. Ben Clark, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, handled the final push and says, "I am elated to share that DHL finally picked up the 15 boxes of laptops. Each box contains 2 laptops, and they are now making their way to the Kiwoko Citizen's Private School, located outside of Kampala, Uganda. We are so excited and humbled to connect students from two different continents. We will make the local donation when it's safe to do so." The colleges will hand deliver 30 laptops to Azalea Gardens Middle School over the summer months, and collaborative projects between the two student groups will commence in the Fall of 2020.



## AIM - Norfolk Safely Disperses CARES Act Grant Checks for Students

By: Cherie Snow



COVID-19 hit hard and fast as it came out of nowhere, impacting everything and everyone around us. Everyone's lives changed in a flash. All we could think about was the students and families. We wanted to do something about it, and we did.

Aviation Institute of Maintenance campus in Norfolk, Virginia, applied for student relief funding under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and distribute live checks on Thursday, May 21, 2020, and Friday, May 22, 2020. We worked as a team to quickly get these live checks out to the student body in a safe manner following Governor and CDC guidelines; social distancing, temperature check, mask, and

**“We worked as a team to quickly get these live checks out to the student body in a safe manner following Governor and CDC guidelines; social distancing, temperature check, mask and disinfection stations.”**

disinfection stations. We appreciate everyone at these times and hope this helped in one way or another. Be safe and take care. Once this is all over, we can't wait for classes to resume back to normal!

## Aviation Maintenance Technician Day at AIM - Norfolk

By: Cherie Snow

Do you know who Charles E. Taylor is and how he's related to Aviation Maintenance Technician Day?

Charles E. Taylor was an American inventor, mechanic, and machinist. He was the man who built the engine used to power the airplane of the WRIGHT BROTHERS!

On May 24, we celebrate and recognize the efforts of Aviation Maintenance Professionals as well as the achievements of Charles E. Taylor, which became Aviation Maintenance Technician Day (AMT DAY). The date of May 24 was selected to honor the birth date of Mr. Charles E. Taylor.

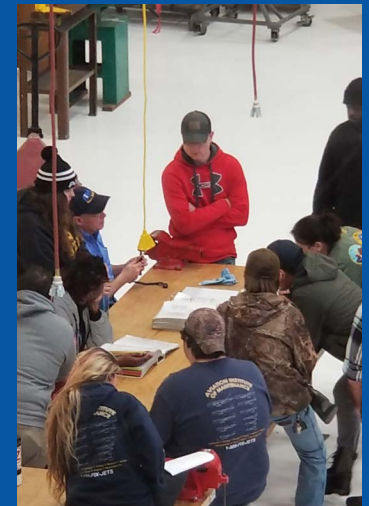
Each year, we celebrate AMT day to thank our A&P instructors and everyone in aviation. This year was slightly different from our usual celebration due to COVID-19. We

decided to change up a bit. As a group, we incorporated a social distancing cookout with a “Thank you” presentation slide show. We had directors grill hamburgers and

**“We had to change it up a bit. We had a social distancing cookout with a “Thank you” presentation slideshow.”**

hot dogs. There were refreshing drinks and sweet desserts.

Aviation has come a long way from where it all began. Share your experience and stories about aviation on Facebook with hashtags #fixjets #aim2graduate or @aviationaim. We appreciate you! Aviation Technicians ROCKS!



An inside look at our AMT instructors and students on Aviation Maintenance Technician Day





## How Does AIM - Fremont Stay Positive During COVID-19?

By: Samantha Choe



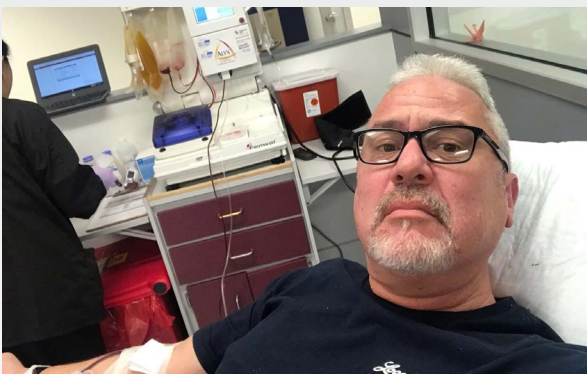
It has been an interesting time with the worldwide event of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has challenged everyone in many ways. As we continue to live day-to-day, it is good to see many people and companies doing their very best to adapt to the new way of life and stay positive. We here at AIM - Fremont are adjusting like many schools all over the nation.

Students and staff are trying to get used to wearing masks every day and sanitizing everything that is touched. Classrooms are being moved and/or modified to be more open and accommodate the recommended 6 feet of distancing for tables and seating. Web cameras sit at every computer within the classrooms. All items that can be wrapped, sanitized and covered are done so regularly. While washing hands regularly, wearing gloves and wiping down all tangible things may be the way of life, we are happy that our staff keeps the morale up by helping in every way they possibly can.

With steps like taking funny pictures, using online chat to communicate with and motivate students, everyone is doing their part in providing comfort and support during these challenging times. We commend students and faculty for how patient they have been with the new and abrupt distance learning process.

In addition to donating blood, our Campus Director, Josh Smith, is also a voluntary delivery driver! Driving all over the Bay Area for Meals on Wheels, he delivers hot meals to many people who cannot travel, including senior citizens, people with disabilities, families with small children and many others. They depend on these meals every day.

As we continue to move forward, it is wonderful that we all stay unified and support each other to stay healthy - from a distance - yet remain hopeful for the future. That is what makes AIM such a pleasant and warm environment. We will all get through this together.



## AIM - Houston Graduate Awarded WAI Scholarship

By: Tiffany Pothier



AIM - Houston is proud to announce our recent graduate, Prince Nnaji, was honored this March at the 31st Annual International Women in Aviation (WAI) Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. He was one of 6 winners selected for the 2020

**“ Prince then took a big step deciding to move to Houston and enrolling at AIM to try something completely new. It was then that he fell in love with the complexity of turbine engines...”**

WAI Scholarship. Prince is both an attentive and inquisitive person

by nature. He earned a B.S. in Microbiology from the University of Calabar in Nigeria, which led him to Dynapharm International, where he worked as a project manager from 2008-2015. He then immigrated to the U.S. where he studied Business at Georgia State.

Prince then took a big step deciding to move to Houston and enrolling at AIM to try something completely new. It was then that he fell in love with the complexity of turbine engines. As a winner of this scholarship, he will choose from either an extensive commercial engine training course at one of the Pratt & Whitney Customer Training Center locations or a Pratt & Whitney Canada small engine training course. AIM is proud of Prince and all his accomplishments.

## AIM Gives Info: Have You Considered Scholarships?

By: Cherie Snow

Did you know that not enough students apply for scholarships and that this is money you don't have to pay back? It's true! Scholarships can help with tuition or covering other expenses. There are even scholarships that are not education-related!

Take advantage of scholarships and start applying! There are so many scholarships to take advantage of.

### Helpful Tips:



**Make sure that you read everything and follow the requirements.**



**You can continue to apply for the following years.**



**You can apply for multiple scholarships at once!**



**Some great websites to check out are:**



[https://www.faa.gov/education/grants\\_and\\_scholarships/aviation/](https://www.faa.gov/education/grants_and_scholarships/aviation/)



<https://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/learn-to-fly/aviation-scholarships>



<https://nbaa.org/professional-development/scholarships/>



<https://www.collegescholarships.com/major-degree/aircraft-mechanics-scholarships>



**Talk to your Financial Aid officer or Bursar for more scholarships or workshops!**





# TRAINING TOMORROW'S TECHNICIANS

Congratulations To All Of Our  
Students Working In The Industry  
As Aircraft Professionals.

ADVINCULA, Aeron	Certified Aviation Services	DOUCETTE, Charlton	AV8 MRO
AHMEED, Jamaal A	Mesa Air Group	FALVO, Christopher	Workforce Resources
ALHAOTHARI, Abdulrahman	Saudia Airlines	GEUY, Ian A	Certified Aviation Services
ALHARBI, Abdalaziz J	Saudia Airlines	GHOWSI, Ahmad	Sterling Aviation-Lessburg,VA
ALI, Quran	Mesa Air Group	GOMEZ-CRUZ, Annette	JetBlue-NY
ALJARFALI, Khalid s	Saudia Airlines	GRIER, William	Certified Aviation Services
ALKHEDHAIR, Marwan M	Saudia Airlines	GRIFFIN, Ryan	Certified Aviation Services
ALMUTIRI, Saleh	Saudia Airlines	GUDGELL, William	ExpressJet Airlines Inc.-Corporate
ALOMARI, Mohammed A	Saudia Airlines	GUIDRY, Peter	FieldCore Service, Inc.
AREVALO, Hunter	Amentum	HANCOCK, Cameron	Maverick Aviation
ATHERTON, Jimmy	Eastridge Workforce Solutions	HEAD, William B	Aviation Institute of Maintenance
ATRAJY, Abdulhamid	Saudia Airlines	HIVES, Ronnie	Boeing Company
BAGOTAIBAH, Abdulrahman M	Saudia Airlines	HOLLEY, Matthew	Mesa Air Group
BAMOFLEH, Mohammed A	Saudia Airlines	HOPKINS, Edward	Amentum
BELCHER, Brian	LAUNCH Technical	HUTCHINSON, Joseph	Maverick Helicopters
BOLOSAN, Christopher P	Draken International	HUYNH, Brandon	United Air Lines, Inc.
BORGOS, Michael	LB Transportation Consulting, Inc.	HUZAU, Maksim	Maverick Helicopters
CAIN, Nicole I	Fighter Factory	IRONS, James	PSA Airlines
CANNION, Jordan	Workforce Resources	ISAAC, Jaden	Mesa Air Group
CAZARES, Anthony A	Grand Canyon Airline	JOHNSON, Percy	Airplanes, Inc.
CRAIN, Chance C	Envoy Air, Inc. (Fort Worth)	JOSEPH, Cary	GE Energy
DANIEL, Jeremayah	Certified Aviation Services	KABISSO, Alemayehu	Menzies Aviation-BAL
DAVIS, Jerome	Oceaneering International	KARLEN, Mark	Skywest Airlines
DELA PENA, Levon	Certified Aviation Services	KHAN, Umair	FieldCore Service, Inc.
DELGADO, Jorge E	Maverick Aviation	KING, Donnie R	URS Federal Services
DIAZ, Thomas	United Airlines	KISER, James	United Air Lines, Inc.
DOBARD, Drake	United Air Lines, Inc.	KUNTZ, Kelsey	Standard Aero

## TRAINING TOMORROW'S TECHNICIANS

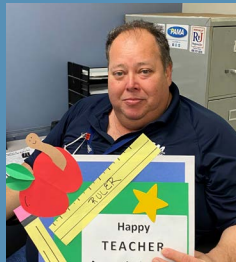
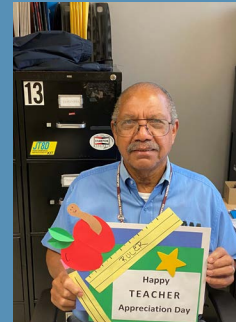
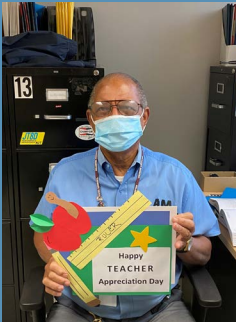
We Are So Proud Of You And Your  
Accomplishments As We Watched  
You Succeed And Grow.

LA, Danny	Southwest Airlines Company	RICHARDS, Andrew	PSA Airlines
LARSEN, Dakota	Airbus	ROBERTS, Abbey M	K & W Aviation
LAWLER, Christopher	Skywest Airlines	ROWELL, Lakiesha	Cummins
LAYBON, Preston	Spirit Airlines	SAA', Malik	Sterling Aviation-Lessburg,VA
LESTER, Tranelius	FieldCore Service, Inc.	SAMANIEGO, Christian	Certified Aviation Services
MAAZOUZ, Driss	General Electric Company (36095)	SARABIA, Jesus	Certified Aviation Services
MARTINEZ, Adrian	Panasonic Corporation of North America	SCOTT, John	Workforce Resources
MARTINEZ, Erik	Pride Staff	SERRANO, Juan	Skywest Airlines
MARTINEZ, Gabriel	Tyonek Native Corporation	SESSOMS, Winston	Amentum
MASTRACCHIO, David	Mesa Air Group	SHEPPEARD, Shawn	AECOM
MAXWELL, Lovelle	Dyncorp International LLC	SIMBULAN, Joseph Neil	Certified Aviation Services
MERCADO, Hugo	Mesa Air Group	SPULER, Shawn	Oceaneering International
MEZA, Alejandro	Mesa Air Group	STODDARD, Brandon	Gama Aviation
MORRIS, Kevin	Boeing Company	SUDDUTH, Ramari	Andrews Airforce Base
MUNFORD, Christopher	Certified Aviation Services	TA, Tho	Mesa Air Group
NEUFELD, Jared	Maverick Helicopters	TAPIA, Ricardo R	Eastridge Workforce Solutions
NGUYEN, Tai	Mesa Air Group	TEJADA MATOS, Julio	LB Transportation Consulting, Inc.
OFOEGBU, Innocent	Triumph Group Operations	TITIZE, Michael	Cummins
ONEIL, Sean D	American Airlines, Inc.	TOKUNAGA, Tiger	Certified Aviation Services
ORTEGA, Brandon	American Airlines, Inc.	TOMASSETTI, Giuseppe	Certified Aviation Services
OSTER, Sabine	PGS WorldWide	VARGAS, Benito	Republic Airways Holdings Inc.
PANGELINAN, Jude	Express Jet (IAH)	VOGT, Joseph	Certified Aviation Services
PIERSON, Maurice	Boeing Company	VU, Khanh N	Panasonic Corporation of North America
PIMENTEL, Erick O	Allegis Group	WAZNA, Abdalrhman E	Saudia Airlines
POPE, William	FieldCore Service, Inc.	WITTEWER, Sabrina	FieldCore Service, Inc.
PURCELL, Ashlee	Piedmont Airlines	XU, Peng	InTech Aerospace
REYES, Roland	Fly Sin City LLC, DBA Gunship Helicopter	ZARE, David	Panasonic Avionics 1



## AIM - Houston Celebrates Teacher Appreciation Day

By: Andrea Vallien



Instructors from our Houston campus take pictures on Teacher Appreciation Day

Teacher Appreciation Day was Tuesday, May 5, 2020. While we recognized our instructors' amazing abilities throughout the year, this is a special day to remember teachers. AIM - Houston celebrated instructors with tasty treats and heartfelt thanks. Like other schools around the world, we had to be creative in celebrating to maintain a safe environment. We want to thank our incredible group of instructors for their endless efforts and passion for helping others succeed. Daily, they are managing numerous students, assignments, issues and teaching modality changes with grace. We extend a "Happy Teacher Appreciation Day" to our faculty at AIM - Houston and all the teachers who help make dreams come true.

## AIM - Houston Graduate Spotlight

By: Tiffany Pothier



They say that success does not come to you, you have got to go to it. That is precise what AIM - Houston graduate Sergio Martinez did. He graduated in February 2020 and obtained his A&P Certification in April. Diligently following up on a lead given to him by Career Services a couple of months prior, he stayed in contact with the Lead Mechanic of Helicopters Incorporated. After earning his A&P certification quickly, Sergio landed a position as an A&P Mechanic with that same company. He is now soaring high with Helicopters Incorporated in Houston, Texas proudly representing AIM - Houston.

## New Student Bus Program for - AIM Norfolk

By: AIM - Norfolk



\*artist rendering

Getting to school shouldn't be a problem, but it is for some. NOT ANY MORE AT AIM - NORFOLK!

**"The New Student Bus Pass program is called the GOPass365."**

At the Aviation Institute of Maintenance - Norfolk campus is excited to share that we have a New Student Bus Pass Program coming soon!! AIM has teamed up with the Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) to provide students access to the bus routes, metro area express, light rail trains and ferry within its services.

The New Student Bus Pass program is called the GOPass365.

Students will be able to log their trips and earn rewards to get discounts or free stuff through restaurants, shops, stores, and more!

Once everything turns back to normal, and the HRT starts again up, students will be able to take advantage of this fantastic program.

Students at AIM - Norfolk can speak to their Bursar or Student Services Coordinator for further information.