

MESABA ON THE MOVE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION PRODUCED ESPECIALLY FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MESABA AVIATION, INC.

MAY 1989 * VOL 2. * NO. 13

Hangar Officially Dedicated

New Corporate Logo Unveiled at Event

Mesaba officially dedicated its new Minneapolis/St. Paul maintenance hangar and office facility in a ceremony on April 19th. The event was held in the company's new facility and featured speeches by Robert Swenson, President of AirTran, A.B. Sky Magary, Vice President of Marketing for Northwest and Jeff Hamiel, Executive Vice President of Metropolitan Airports Commission.

"This newly constructed facility reflects the commitment that we have made to growth as a company providing quality regional airline services to this region," said Rob Swenson to the crowd of nearly 300 attending guests and employees. Invited and attending guests included members of the state legislature, M.A.C., Twin Cities financial community, Northwest Airlines, leaders from cities served by Mesaba and other friends and associates of the company.

Mesaba broke ground on the new hangar in April 1988 and it took seven months to construct. The Company moved into the \$4.5 million dollar facility in November of 1988 and waited for warmer weather before officially dedicating the building.

The hangar features nearly 80,000 square foot of space, 53,000 of which is designated solely towards maintenance area and related space. The other portion of the building features three floors of offices for the Company. The hangar will accommodate up to six or more aircraft at the same time.

In addition to the speeches, the dedication featured tours of the new building given by Mesaba employees.



Officials here commemorate the official cutting of the ribbon for the hangar. Pictured are (l to r): Lowell Swenson, AirTran Director, Jeff Hamiel, Exec. Director of MAC, Robert Swenson, President of AirTran, A.B. Sky Magary, Northwest Sr. Vice President of Marketing and Larry McCabe, Mesaba Vice President

Music, hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and a displayed Metro III and Fokker F27 aircraft were also inside the hangar. Balloons, decorations and signs adorned the walls of the hangar to give it a more festive feeling.

Mesaba also formally unveiled a new corporate logo for its holding

company, AirTran Corporation, during Mr. Swenson's presentation. A look at the new logo and story may

HANGAR, continued on page 4

Central Wisconsin Hangar Purchased

Mesaba announced that it has purchased an aircraft maintenance facility located at Central Wisconsin Airport in Mosinee, Wisconsin. The airline obtained the facility, formerly used by Midstate Airlines, from a group of investors located in the Central Wisconsin region.

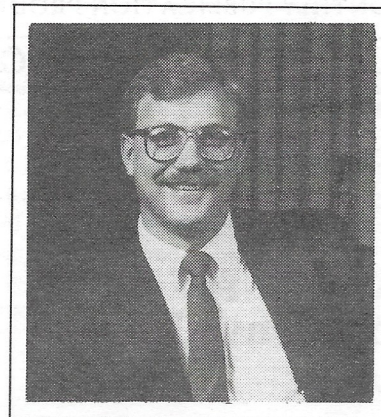
The hangar, built in 1982, features approximately 38,000 square feet of space, the majority of which is maintenance and related shop space. The facility is the largest aircraft hangar located at Central Wisconsin Airport.

Lawrence McCabe, Mesaba Vice President of Government and Corporate Affairs, said the airline has not finalized its long range plans for the facility, but said it will continue utilizing the building for aircraft cleaning and other minor aircraft maintenance work. The company has leased the

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Letter From The President

MAY 1989



Dear Employees,

I am pleased to report that month to date in May, we are operating at an approximate 82% system-wide on-time rate, which is 1% better than the best major airline. Our completion rate in May to date has been approximately 95%. Clearly, we still have some improvements to make; however, I am happy to report that as additional aircraft are delivered to us, our operating reliability is beginning to show strong improvement. Our internal company goal is to achieve an 85% on-time rate and a 99% completion rate. I hope that with your help we can make those numbers real very soon.

Additional aircraft are continuing to arrive. In May, we signed an agreement to obtain two additional Metro III aircraft, which will bring our Metro fleet to sixteen aircraft. Those two airplanes, which we are leasing from Northwest Aircraft, Inc., will be put in service in June to help us meet our scheduled service plans. We also recently took delivery of our tenth F27 which will go in service shortly. We are expecting an additional four F27s this summer and one more F27 to be delivered later this year.

I hope that many of you will be able to attend this year's company family picnic which is scheduled for Saturday, June 10 at Fort Snelling State Park in St. Paul. This event is always a fun time for employees and their family members. I hope to see you there.

Best wishes for a successful month. As always, thank you for your service to our customers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Swenson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right. It is positioned above the printed name and title.

Robert D. Swenson
President & Chairman

Company News

Mesaba Reports April Traffic

The Company reported that it carried 50,852 passengers during the month of April, a 73% percent increase over 29,322 passengers flown during the same month last year. Mesaba said it had a system-wide load factor in April of 52.2%, compared to a load factor of 49.3% last year.

The airline's traffic figures have shown a considerable increase in recent months, reflecting new service implemented beginning last December at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, the carrier's newest hub operation.

Mesaba serves 33 airports in ten Midwest states.

Two Metro III's Ordered

Mesaba announced on May 16 that it has signed agreements for two additional Metro III aircraft which it expects to take delivery of in May of this year. Mesaba is leasing the aircraft through Northwest Aircraft Inc., a subsidiary of NWA Inc. The two

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Editor - Douglas P. Fulton



Mesaba purchased this aircraft hangar at Central Wisconsin Airport in Mosinee, Wisconsin. The building features 38,000 square foot of space. Mesaba currently overnights aircraft in the hangar.

aircraft were formerly operated by Air Midwest.

The addition of those two aircraft increases to sixteen the number of 19-passenger Metro III aircraft that Mesaba operates in its fleet. The two aircraft are scheduled to go in service in June.

10th Fokker Delivered

The Company took delivery of its tenth Fokker F27 aircraft recently. The aircraft is the fourth F27 to be delivered in conjunction with the company's expansion to the Detroit hub.

The aircraft was formerly operated by British Midland Airlines in England.

Painted in a new white and red paint scheme, the aircraft is scheduled to go in service in mid-May. Officials from Mesaba say they expect to receive four additional F27 aircraft this summer and one more later this year to round out orders that were put in place for planning the Detroit expansion.

CWA, continued

hangar since November 1988 for overnight aircraft cleaning and storage.

Mesaba has provided scheduled airline service to Central Wisconsin Airport since June 1986. The airline operates as Northwest Airlink under a marketing agreement with Northwest Airlines and currently provides Central Wisconsin Airport with six round-trip flights to Minneapolis/St. Paul, two round-trip flights to Detroit and two round-trip flights to Milwaukee.

Company Picnic Scheduled for June 10

All employees are invited to the company's annual family picnic

NEWS, continued on back page

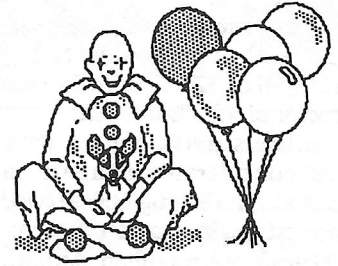
Join in the Summer Picnic Fun!!!

Mesaba's annual Summer Family Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, June 10 at Fort Snelling Park in St. Paul, Minnesota. The picnic fun will be from 11:00A - 4:00P. All employees and their family members are invited to attend.

Games, swimming, horse shoes, volleyball tournament and a fun pig roast are all events which will be featured at the picnic. For the little ones, there will be a special

appearance by summer fun clowns to play games with the children.

All food and refreshments will be provided by the company. All employees should just bring themselves and be ready to enjoy a day of relaxing fun and sun.



New Corporate Logo Announced

The company unveiled a new corporate logo at the airline's hangar dedication on April 19. The logo will be the corporate symbol for AirTran Corporation, the parent company of Mesaba.

The logo is in the shape of a modern aircraft tail and its color is deep red. Designed by the Minneapolis graphics design company, Eaton & Associates, the symbol will begin being more visible in this year's annual report.

"The symbol is one of strength and energy," said Rob Swenson during his dedication speech on April 19. "We know it will carry AirTran and Mesaba into the future with vision, strength and courage."

The new AirTran logo is the first one designed for AirTran since the holding company was formed last summer. The logo will also be used in conjunction with Mesaba's corporate needs.

However, Mesaba's airplanes, equipment and uniforms will continue to appear in Northwest AirlinK's livery and logo colors. The new logo and symbol will begin appearing, shortly, on company items such as stationary and forms.



HANGAR, continued

be found on this page of the newsletter.

The hangar dedication was a special event for many of the people who helped build the new facility and for many of the employees who are now working in and around the building. A copy of Rob Swenson's dedication speech may also be found on page five of this newsletter.

Businesses involved with Constructing Mesaba's new hangar

Architect:

Tushie-Montgomery & Associates

General Contractor:

Krause-Anderson

Dedication Comments

The following speech was delivered by Robert D. Swenson at Mesaba's Hangar Dedication Ceremony.

Good morning ladies and gentlemen and thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us today. My name is Rob Swenson and I am President of Mesaba Aviation.

It is my pleasure and honor to welcome you to this beautiful new maintenance hangar and general office facility. This 80,000 square foot facility reflects the commitment that we have made to growth as a company providing quality regional airline services to this region.

This project certainly did not happen overnight. In fact, in 1983, we began communicating with the Metropolitan Airports Commission expressing an interest in building an aircraft maintenance facility at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. One which would accommodate our growing level of regional airline operations. After a few years of work and planning, we finally broke ground last April and moved into this facility in late

"In 1983, we began communicating with the MAC about building a facility"

November... And, although we gave serious consideration to a hangar dedication in mid-January, we felt that we might actually see you if we had this event today. So here we are today, three days short of our ground breaking ceremony one year ago.

Any large project of this magnitude takes a lot of work, time and effort. Our success in developing this facility would not have been possible without a great deal of help from many of our friends and associates in this region.

We would like to thank the state of Minnesota, Gov. Rudy Perpich and his administration's support for the project. Also we would like to thank the



many state and local officials who have been instrumental in both Mesaba's growth and in this expansion.

We would like to thank the Metropolitan Airports Commissioners, Jeff Hamiel, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Airports Commission, and his staff, for their assistance and help in planning and financing this project. Mesaba is currently the sixth largest carrier serving this airport. With quiet jetprop aircraft, we look for our relationship with MAC to continue growing successfully into the future.

We would like to thank all of the cities and states we serve, many of which are represented here today by local officials, for all of the support and assistance they have given our growing company.

We would like to thank our major airline marketing partner, Northwest Airlines, for its assistance and support during the past five successful years of our Airlink relationship. As Northwest's first Airlink partner, we have forged ahead, together, with progressive and creative marketing programs designed to provide medium and small size communities with quality airline service. We are proud to work with you Northwest. Thank you.

We would like to also thank all of the individuals and businesses who designed and that built this wonderful facility. Their talents and dedication towards high quality work have helped make this facility what it is today.

I wish to personally thank all of our fine employees for their every day service to this company. This facility is

one of the finest, most modern buildings of its type in this country and it will

"Our success is due to our passengers"

allow our employees to work in an efficient, clean and productive environment. It has already enabled our company to expand our operations, employ additional employees and provide further opportunities for many employees in our company. Mesaba currently employs 670 persons system-wide, up from 400 last April when we broke ground on this project.

During this next year, we will carry more than 750,000 passengers to 33 cities across our ten state airline system. Our success is due to our passengers and it is because of them that we are all here today. Thanks to them for choosing Mesaba/Northwest Airlink.

I also want to say a personal thank you to AirTran and Mesaba's Board of Directors, many of whom are here today. Their support and dedication to the successful growth of this company and their personal support of me during difficult times over the years, has been tremendous. To them, I am extremely grateful. This hangar represents their vision of the future.

Along with our new building, we are also very pleased to present to you

SPEECH, continued on back

Employee News

New April Employees

Full-time

Russell Schmidt, Mechanic, MSP
John Rockwell, Mechanic, MSP
Craig Waarvik, Mechanic, MSP
Mark Hilyer, Mechanic, MSP
Steve Day, Flight Instructor, GPZ
Ron Husnick, A/C Cleaner, CWA
Kim Dohlby, Acct. Payable, MSP
Andy Hermanski, Rec. Clerk, MSP
Al Knaus, Mechanic, MSP
Mark Fode, Mechanic, MSP
Joseph Childs, Mechanic, MSP
Dominic Hall, Pilot, DTW
Mark Nelson, Pilot, DTW
Klaus Goersch, Pilot, DTW
Ken Stauder, Stock Clerk, DTW
Thomas White, Chief Insp., DTW
Carl Reineccius, Avionics, DTW
Robert Hernandez, Pilot, DTW
Art Managan, Pilot, DTW
Jim Zachariason, Pilot, DTW
Bill Daudt, Pilot, DTW
Mitch Peecher, Pilot, DTW
John Wise, Pilot, DTW
Andy Mahan, Pilot, DTW

Lynn Huppert, Pilot, DTW
Tom Pace, Pilot, DTW
Tim Josephson, Pilot, DTW
John Swanson, Pilot, DTW
Mike Ablan, Pilot, DTW
Tom Ochsenbauer, Pilot, DTW
Russell Sindler, Pilot, DTW
Kevin Wendland, Pilot, DTW
Gary Kottke, Pilot, DTW
Cliff Snyder, Pilot, DTW
Edith Czerniak, A/C Cleaner, DTW
Gwen Ballard, CSA, DTW
Jeff Legel, Pilot, DTW
Mark Mohler, Pilot, DTW

Part-time

Jeff Kuznia, CSA, MSP
Connie Keifort, CSA, MSP
Ray Rohling, CSA, MSP
Steve Long, CSA, BKK
Tracy Lilly, CSA, JMS
Vicki Johnson, CSA, JMS
Robert Funk, CSA, PIR

Mesaba Memos

Congratulations to **Gerald Mensen** (Mechanic, Maintenance) and wife Debra Odens who were married on May 27.

Congratulations to **Tamey Efrainson** (CSA, Watertown) and husband on April 16 birth of son Travis Paul.

Congratulations to **Martin Lewandowski** (Manager, Lincoln) and wife Julie Gentert who were married on May 20.

Congratulations to **Bill Steinmetz** (Manager, Jamestown) and wife Joleen on April 18 birth of daughter Sydney Rae.

Congratulations to **Paul Montgomery** (Dispatch) and **Sherri Willman** (Crew Scheduling) who were engaged on April 9. The two have planned an October 27, 1989 wedding.

Congratulations to **Debra Luke** (MSP Customer Service) who was engaged to **David Brynjulfson**. A July 14, 1989 wedding is planned.

Congratulations to **Jenna Foner** (MSP Customer Service) who was engaged to **Jim Becker**. A June 3, 1989 wedding is planned.

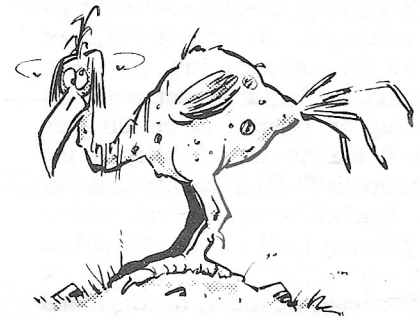
Promotions

John Benson to Manager of Maintenance in Detroit

Randy Rhode to Maintenance Supervisor in Detroit

AVIATION GLOSSARY

MOA - A LARGE EXTINCT FLIGHTLESS BIRD OF ZAMBOANGA THAT STOOD 12 FT TALL. ALSO ACRONYM FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA WHERE YOU DON'T WANT TO BE WHEN THEY'RE FIRING OFF GROUND-TO-AIR MISSILES!



News

Employee Benefits: Bereavement/Funeral Leave Changes

The Company has amended its Bereavement/Funeral Leave Benefit to reflect the following changes:

Effective April 1, 1989, all full-time employees of Mesaba will have available a paid leave of absence for the purposes of bereavement and/or attending the funeral services of a family mem-

BENEFIT, continued page 7

Employee News

BENEFIT, continued

ber. The absence must take place between the time of the death and up to one day after the funeral.

Three days paid bereavement leave will be paid for the death of the following employee's family member: spouse, child, mother, father, brother, sister, mother-in-law, father-in-law or step parent.

Two days paid bereavement leave will be paid for the death of the following employee's family member: Grandparent, grandchild, brother-in-law or sister-in-law.

Compensation will be paid only for the time that the employee would have been scheduled to work and the pay will be computed at the regular hourly rate to a maximum of eight hours for one day. Pay for bereavement leave will not be considered for purposes of overtime.

An employee's request to use unpaid sick leave or accumulated vacation in the event of a death, in addition to the paid leave, will also be considered by the company.

If an employee has a question on this updated benefit or any other benefits the company offers, they may call Mesaba's personnel office in Minneapolis at 612-726-5151 x123 and speak with Karen in Employee Benefits.

Trainers Receive Training

Recently a group of five training managers and directors attended a University of Minnesota course entitled "Training the Trainer." Ann Romera (Inflight), Mark Langar (Flight Ops), Brad Baker (Maintenance), Chris VanDenHeuval (Stations) and Scott Larson (Maintenance) learned, among other things, how to motivate and direct trainees to take



WHO IS MINDING THE SHOP? Five Aberdeen agents took advantage of pass privileges and traveled to San Diego, California on March 9th to get away from the long cold winter of South Dakota. From left to right are Joni Duvall, Jackie Burke, Kim Weber, Patty Martin, Kelly Dahlberg and Melody Bonzer. - thanks to Kim Weber

responsibility for their own learning experience. Also presented were some very important strategies for sustaining the newly learned skills and behaviors on the job.

- thanks to Ann Romera

Mesaba Hosts Travel Agency Functions

Employees from Mesaba's Marketing and Customer Service Departments have been busy the past two months meeting with travel agents from new cities on Mesaba's route system.

The meetings, held with Northwest Airline's marketing and sales department, usually consist of a dinner and reception, a program and an opportunity for travel agents from new cities to ask questions to officials from Mesaba or Northwest. Travel agents, which book nearly 80% of all airline reservations, have had good questions about Mesaba's service.

"Many of the travel agents that we have met with are already familiar with Mesaba and our services," said Doug Fulton, Director of Marketing and P.R. for Mesaba. "However, our meetings have helped answer specific questions about our airplanes and operations." To date, Mesaba has met with agencies in Erie, Toledo, Flint, and Pellston.

Participating in the meetings, in addition to Fulton, have been Larry McCabe (Vice President of Government and Community Affairs), Jeff Jones (Director of Marketing Planning) and other Mesaba employees depending on the location, Linda Macklin (ERI), Kathy Gephart (TOL), Tony Shaker (FNT), Scott Leper (PLN), Brad Osborn (MSP), Steve Hanifl (DTW) and Charlean Sabo (MSP).

NEWS, continued

which will be held on Saturday, June 10 at Fort Snelling State Park. The Park is located in St. Paul, Minnesota near the airport.

The annual event features fun games, a pig roast, fun visiting and a traditional interdepartmental volleyball tournament. RSVP forms to all employees were sent out on May 17, according to the family picnic chairperson, Andrea Peura. Andrea requests that all employees send them in as soon as possible.

All employees are invited and encouraged to attend.

New Airlink Carrier Announced

Northwest Airlines announced in early May that it had selected Manchester, New Hampshire - based Precision Airlines to be an East Coast Airlink operator for the major carrier. Effective May 22, Precision Airlink

service began to Boston from Lebanon, NH, Islip, NY, and Manchester. In addition, Precision will provide service at New York Laguardia, Newark and Philadelphia.

Beginning June 12, Precision will provide flights between Boston and both Portland, Maine and Albany, New York.

A former Eastern Express Carrier which ceased operations shortly after Eastern suspended operations earlier this year, Precision operates a fleet of Dornier aircraft.

SPEECH, continued

today the new corporate symbol for AirTran Corporation, our parent company, and the symbol for Mesaba. We are flying this banner for the very first time today. It is a symbol of strength and energy and we know that it will carry AirTran and Mesaba into the future with vision, strength and courage. Thank you.

Northwest Airlink Carriers

Mesaba Aviation
MSP, DTW, MKE

Express One
MEM, MSP, MKE

Big Sky Transportation Co.
BIL

Precision Air
BOS

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