## **Aviation Scholarships**

## Rose Lepore, Aviation Scholarship Advisor

This year we received five (5) applications for AE Scholarships, and no New Pilot Award applications. The members of the committee, besides myself, who do such a great job of reviewing applications year after year are Clancey Maloney and Becky Hempel. We are all committed to helping applicants achieve their aviation goals and would love to be contacted by applicants or Chapter AE chairs for information and advice.

In an effort to generate more interest in the AE Scholarship application process and try to find out why some Chapters in the Section almost always have applicants while others seldom or never do, we are planning to divide the Chapters between us and make contact with as many as possible to see if we can get some answers. We hope this effort will bear fruit and we'll have a bumper year for scholarship applications for 2014.

Of the five (5) applications submitted, three (3) were forwarded to the Trustees for further consideration. The Section quota for AE Scholarship applications this year was seven (7) applications and four (4) "strong" alternates. The following are the applications selected by the Committee to be sent to the Trustees---all three were awarded scholarships:

- Erin Lynch Houston (Multi Engine)-WINNER
- Michelle Bassanesi Ambassador (Academic)-WINNER
- Issra'a Sheikh Colorado(Multi Engine Instructor)-WINNER

The two (2) applications we did not forward to the Trustees had problems we were not able to resolve. One actually withdrew her application and said she'll be back next year. There is clearly some confusion about what hours can and cannot be included in the requested training. Before submitting applications, applicants and Chapter AE Chairmen should:

- Check the FARs to be sure they know what's required for each rating sought.
- Read the application instructions very carefully to be sure all eligibility requirements are met, including the correct medical needed. If the medical is expired and the plan is to continue to use it as a lower class (as in a First Class Medical reverting to Third Class), indicate that in the applicant letter.
- Only apply for the amount actually needed to cover the training, ground instruction and check ride---don't try to use training to build required time that is lacking.
- Get an early start on the process---try to get the application packet as soon as it's available on the website and allow sufficient time to seek help and get questions answered well before the submission deadline.
- Your SCS AE Scholarship committee is willing to help, don't hesitate to e-mail us with questions, etc. (We're all in the directory) Members are: Rose Lepore, Linda Clancey Maloney and Becky Hempel. Some of you may know Becky through the PPLI program.

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Once again this year the number of applications submitted was disappointing. I know there must be more Ninety-Nines out there who could meet the eligibility requirements and would like to advance their aviation goals. If you're one of those, visit the website, review the application forms when they become available for 2013, and go for it! You will find there are plenty of former winners (names available on the website), fellow Chapter members, as well as your scholarship committee who would be happy to help you.

Since the Instructions for Chapter AE Scholarship Chairman are published on the website with the current years' AEMSF Scholarship Application forms and may change from year to year, we no longer provide a job description for Chapter AE Chairmen on the SCS website. It's extremely important that Chapters be aware of this and make sure the individual selected to serve as AE Chairman get this information from the International website as soon as it's available. They should also familiarize themselves with the entire application packet when helping a Chapter applicant get their forms ready for submission and encourage each applicant to do the same.

If you have questions, you can always contact me by phone (713-557-7199) or by e-mail (<u>rose\_lepore@dell.com</u>). If I'm not sure of the answer, I always query the Trustees to be sure I'm giving you correct information.

Remember, information about other aviation scholarships is available on The Ninety-Nines website (<a href="http://www.ninety-nines.org/index.cfm/other\_scholarships.htm">http://www.ninety-nines.org/index.cfm/other\_scholarships.htm</a>). Several of these have links to specific websites.

Respectfully Submitted, Rose Lepore, South Central Section Aviation Scholarship Advisor

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