

# **SCHOLASTIC SCHOLARSHIPS**

**PROVIDED THROUGH**

**THE SOUTHEASTERN AIRPORT MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION  
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.**

**MANAGED BY**

**THE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF AIRPORT EXECUTIVES**

**The Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives was formed at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, in the fall of 1983. At the time of the Chapter's formation, one of the country's oldest and most highly respected regional airport managers' associations was already in existence – The Southeastern Airport Managers' Association also known as SAMA.**

**SAMA was formed in 1947 and among its major objectives were the continuing education of its members and the providing of incentives and scholastic scholarships to motivate college and university students to continue in their airport management curriculums and follow their studies to careers in the airports industry. To that end, the Southeastern Airport Managers' Association Educational Foundation, Inc., was incorporated in the State of Florida and annual contributions were made to the Foundation through SAMA's annual conference profits, corporate and personal donations, and the final wills and testaments of some of SAMA's most dedicated members.**

**In 1997, following years of difficult and emotional negotiations, SAMA merged with the Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (SEC-AAAE). Today, the Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives manages the SAMA Educational Foundation, Inc., in memory of and respect to that fine Association**

**The goal of the Foundation is to eventually provide an annual scholastic scholarship to a college or university in each state originally represented by SAMA and now represented by the SEC-AAAE. Those states include Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina,**

**Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands.**

**The SAMA Educational Foundation, Inc., currently endorses annual scholarships to the following colleges and universities as budgetary restrictions permit:**

<b>Auburn University</b>	<b>Alabama</b>
<b>Henderson State University</b>	<b>Arkansas</b>
<b>Florida Institute of Technology</b>	<b>Florida</b>
<b>Middle Georgia State University</b>	<b>Georgia</b>
<b>Eastern Kentucky University</b>	<b>Kentucky</b>
<b>Louisiana Tech University</b>	<b>Louisiana</b>
<b>Delta State University</b>	<b>Mississippi</b>
<b>Elizabeth State University</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>
<b>Unnamed</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>
<b>Middle Tennessee State</b>	<b>Tennessee</b>
<b>University Hampton University</b>	<b>Virginia</b>
<b>Fairmont State College</b>	<b>West Virginia</b>

**Auburn University is the only school currently provided two annual scholarships. The two scholarships are provided with great respect for the contributions to SAMA and the Foundation by Charles E. Hanst, former Airport Management Consultant for the Federal Aviation Administration and Willard M. Fletcher, former President of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority.**

**Prior to its merger with the SEC-AAAE, The Southeastern Airport Managers' Association dedicated certain scholarships in the names of former members who provided unyielding service to the Association and outstanding support to the SAMA Educational Foundation, Inc. These honored individuals are Charles E. Hanst, Willard M. Fletcher, A.A.E., and William J. Dumatrait, A.A.E. The Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives followed that example when it named a scholarship for William S. Hamilton, A.A.E.**

**These scholarships represent a small way for the members of SAMA and the SEC-AAAE to show their love and respect for truly great men of aviation whose work should not be forgotten. Their lives were**

**devoted to advancing aviation and encompassed the thrill, excitement and companionship that the former members of SAMA and current members of the SEC-AAAE hope recipients of these scholarships will experience. A brief history of each individual is provided herein to honor these heroes of airport management and to show our eternal appreciation for their contributions to the profession.**

## **The Charles E. Hanst Memorial Scholarship**

**Charles E. Hanst was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 23, 1896. Mr. Hanst graduated from Kingwood High School, Kingwood, West Virginia, attended the US Naval Academy from 1916-1917, enlisted in the Aviation Section of the Signal Reserve Corps on September 11, 1917 and was assigned as a Flying Cadet at the Georgia Tech School of Aeronautics in October 1917. Mr. Hanst soloed on January 25, 1918, completed his training and was qualified as a Reserve Military Aviator on April 16, 1918. He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, Signal Reserve Corps, on April 30, 1918. He served in World War I. In the early 1920's Mr. Hanst did some flight instruction and barnstorming to earn his living. Later in that decade, he served with the US Marines in Santo Domingo. In the late 1920's and early 1930's he served as a flight instructor where he touched the lives of numerous future aviators. He served as an airline pilot in Guatemala in the early 1930's and later served as "Airport Engineer and Aeronautics Inspector" for the State of West Virginia. In 1937, he was hired as Airport Manager for Dallas Love Field in Dallas, Texas and remained in that role until August 1942. From 1942 to 1945, during World War II, he served in the Air Transport Command. After the war, he returned for a brief period to his duties as Airport Manager at Dallas Love Field before joining the newly formed Civil Aeronautics Administration, the forerunner to the Federal Aviation Administration, as an Airport Management Consultant. It was during this phase of his long and illustrious career with the CAA/FAA that Mr. Hanst distinguished himself as a true airport professional. It was here that he assisted with the development of many airports throughout the southeastern United States. Many of those considered legends in southeastern airport management had their lives touched by Charles Hanst. He possessed many unique qualities that encouraged many in the profession to call upon him for counseling and friendship. Mr. Hanst was a longtime supporter of the American Association of Airport Executives and he especially endeared himself to the Southeastern Airport Managers' Association where he congregated with friends, peers and colleagues. Charles E. Hanst is remembered as one of the true greats in aviation and airport management.**

**The Charles E. Hanst Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to Auburn University.**

## **The Willard M. Fletcher, A.A.E., Memorial Scholarship**

**Willard M. Fletcher was born in Edwardsville, Illinois.**

**After 24 years as a naval aviator, he retired from the US Navy in 1968 as a Captain. His last assignment was Assistant Chief of Staff to the Chief of Naval Air Technical Training at the Naval Air Station in Millington, Tennessee.**

**Upon retiring from the US Navy, Mr. Fletcher joined the staff of the Memphis Airport as Deputy Director responsible for coordinating all efforts of the various airport departments. As Deputy Director, he was also in charge of making all administrative assignments. Finance was one of his major interests and he was instrumental in securing bond financing for the airport.**

**Mr. Fletcher became President of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority and Director of Aviation for the Memphis International Airport in September 1975 succeeding the late Capt. Robert H. Wood. Mr. Fletcher served in that capacity until his untimely death on March 21, 1985.**

**Will Fletcher served the aviation community in many capacities including Vice Chairman of Airport Operators Council International, now Airports Council International – North America. He was a long time supporter and past president of the Southeastern Airport Managers' Association (1985-1985) and also served as president of the Tennessee Association of Air Carrier Airports.**

**This scholarship was originally funded by the Memphis-Shelby County Aviation Authority and has been continued with great love and respect for one of SAMA's greatest members.**

**The Willard M. Fletcher, A.A.E., Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to Auburn University.**

## **The William J. Dumatrait, A.A.E., Memorial Scholarship**

**William J. (Bill) Dumatrait may be the best known and most beloved member of the Southeastern Airport Managers' Association. He was born in 1914 and passed away in 1993. At the time of his death he was the executive secretary of SAMA and publisher of the organization's newsletter, the SAMAGRAM.**

**Mr. Dumatrait was a lifelong resident of Lake Charles, Louisiana where he served for seventeen years as Manager of the Lake Charles Regional Airport.**

**Mr. Dumatrait served three terms on the Calcasieu Police Jury, the Louisiana Napoleonic counterpart of the County Board of Supervisors, and his service included membership on the committees that planned and built the Lake Charles Regional Airport. He likewise provided invaluable assistance to the State of Louisiana Office of Aviation and Public Transportation during the time the agency worked aggressively to improve the entire commercial and general aviation airport and heliport systems throughout the state.**

**Mr. Dumatrait organized the Louisiana Airport Managers' Association and served as its first president. He served as president of the Southeastern Airport Managers' Association from 1974 to 1975 and was instrumental in organizing the first scholarships ever awarded by SAMA. Mr. Dumatrait was an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) through the American Association of Airport Executives and a longtime supporter of that organization.**

**Bill Dumatrait was a special man who never met a stranger, made every new member of SAMA feel at home and he possessed a special flair for entertaining audiences with his Cajun stories that made him a well-known figure throughout the airport industry.**

**The William J. Dumatrait, A.A.E., Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to Louisiana Tech University.**

## **The William S. Hamilton, A.A.E., Memorial Scholarship**

**William S. (Bill) Hamilton, A.A.E., was born in Elizabethtown, Kentucky on October 11, 1945. Although he developed polio as a child and was confined to a wheelchair, Bill never allowed this handicap to stand in his way of accomplishment, including becoming a licensed pilot, and he refused to use the handicap to gain special privileges in any positions he held. Bill was a friend to everyone he met and a mentor and counselor to many young people in the airports industry.**

**Bill Hamilton graduated from the University of Illinois in Urbana with a B.S. in Industrial Administration. He became an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) with the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) after passing his oral examination at the Association's annual conference held in Cincinnati, Ohio in May of 1978. He later became Chairman of the AAAE Board of Examiners and served in that role from 1982 to 1986. He received the coveted AAAE President's Award from the President of AAAE in 1985.**

**Bill began his aviation career as an Airport Planner with the Federal Aviation Administration in Washington, DC. He served as Associate Director for Planning Coordination for the Louisville and Jefferson County Air Board (Regional Airport Authority) in 1973 and a few years later he became Director of Planning in the Airport Authority's Engineering and Planning Department. The Governor of Kentucky appointed him to a five-year term on the Kentucky Airport Zoning Commission in 1980.**

**Following numerous promotions and a host of accomplishments with the Regional Airport Authority (Louisville), Bill moved to Richmond, Virginia where he ended his career as Deputy Director of Facilities and Planning for the Capital Region Airport Commission. It was here that he passed away on October 16, 1990. He was 45 years old.**

**Bill was a founding father of the Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives and served as the Association's President from 1987 to 1988.**

**The William S. Hamilton, A.A.E., Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to Eastern Kentucky University.**

## HOW TO APPLY

The Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives contracts with Scholarship Managers, a division of Career Opportunities Through Education (Cote') ©®™, a national nonprofit scholarship management services organization, to manage the SAMA Educational Foundation, Inc.

Scholarship Managers' mission is to provide professional assistance to associations, corporations, foundations, and individuals in the delivery of financial aid to qualified and deserving students.

If you attend one of the colleges or universities endorsed by the Southeastern Airport Manager's Association Educational Foundation, Inc., and you want to apply for a scholarship, you may contact Scholarship Managers at the following address:

Scholarship Managers Operations Center  
PO Box 2810  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Telephone – (856) 616-9311  
Fax – (856) 616-9711  
Email – [scholarshipmanagers@scholarshipmanagers.com](mailto:scholarshipmanagers@scholarshipmanagers.com)  
Website – [admin@secaaae.org](http://admin@secaaae.org)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Availability of SAMA Educational Foundation, Inc., scholarships is based on annual budgetary allotments. All scholarships, select scholarships or no scholarships may be made available during any given fiscal year. Contact the SECAAAE Executive Secretary at [admin@secaaae.org](mailto:admin@secaaae.org) for scholarship availability prior to submitting applications.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**The Southeastern Airport Managers' Association Educational Foundation, Inc. and the Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives offer their most sincere appreciation to the following families and individuals for their invaluable assistance in providing the biographies of our honored members:**

**The Charles E. Hanst family.**

**The William M. Fletcher, A.A.E., family**

**The William J. Dumatriat, A.A.E., family**

**The William S. Hamilton, A.A.E., family**

**Montford O. Burgess, Jr., A.A.E.**

**Ronda Swift**