

Silver Eagles Newsletter

February 2012

We have two new members this month, a couple of former gurus! Also Tom Hauter is planning to retire this year and threatening to join us! Oh, last month's photos were too large according to Kay – suitable for making wall posters – if you're in the mood to do that. I'm sorry!

New Members:

Mike Weber – former Board computer guru.

Bridget Serchak – public affairs guru.

Board News:

Bridget Serchak departed from the Board with the following note:

“As you may have heard already (though it's been a fairly quick turnaround - my sincere apologies to those of you I was unable to tell personally), today is my last day at the NTSB.

I start Monday as chief, public affairs at DOD/IG (www.dodig.mil <<http://www.dodig.mil/>>) - at the new Mark Center off I-395, not the Pentagon, but still not too far away from NTSB HQ.

While the new job is certainly a wonderful opportunity (and a return to my roots both as an Army brat and because my first job out of college was at OSD/DOD), I am very, very sad to leave my life at the Board and all of you.

In 1993, as part of my graduate school capstone course in crisis communications (while working in media relations at Amtrak in Chicago), I wrote my final paper on the NTSB launch to Amtrak's Sunset Limited accident near Mobile, AL.

As part of the final class exercise on the accident launch, I recreated an NTSB press conference with my classmates (I played the part of the NTSB Board Member on scene!) - never dreaming at that moment in time that I would one day be a PAO for the Board.

I did get an A+ in that class J - and from then on it seemed as if all roads led to the NTSB - through my years at Amtrak, Operation Lifesaver, International Council of Cruise Lines, ITS America, and even at a software company where ATA and ATSSA were customers - until I was eventually hired by the Board.

It has been a genuine pleasure and true honor to work with all of you (and I remember fondly all those who have retired or moved on since I first started working here in 2007).

However, most of you know I'm pretty good about keeping in touch, so I think you won't be surprised when you see and/or hear from me again in the very near future. So I will just say "see you soon", instead of "goodbye".

As my former supervisor, Ted Lopatkiewicz, said when he retired from the Board last year, when I tell folks that I had the privilege of working at the NTSB, it will be not just a claim, but a boast.

My very best to all of you.”

Chairman Hersman put together a few announcements that may be of interest:

First: “I am very pleased to announce the selection of **David K. Tochen, Esq.** as the next NTSB General Counsel. Mr. Tochen has over 30 years of legal and managerial experience in the Office of General Counsel at the Department of Transportation and most recently as Deputy Chief Counsel, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation (DOT). He also has served as an Attorney at the National Commission for Health Certifying Agencies and the Consumer Federation of America.

Mr. Tochen brings to his new position a wealth of experience that includes executive leadership of attorneys and a broad range of multimodal and modal specific legal and policy issues. Over the course of his career, he has worked closely policy makers in many other Federal agencies, including the White House Counsel's Office, the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Justice, the Government Accountability Office, and Congressional staff on a variety of legal issues.

Mr. Tochen is the recipient of numerous awards including the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Administrator's Eagle Award (Employee of the Year Award) and the Federal Bar Association, Transportation Section, Transportation Lawyer of the Year Award. Mr. Tochen is a member of the American Bar Association and the Sections on Administrative Law and on Labor and Employment Law, as well as a Member of the Federal Bar Association and a Member of the District of Columbia Bar. He holds a Bachelor of Economics degree from the State University of New York and earned his law degree at The National Law Center, George Washington University.

He will assume the General Counsel position on August 15, 2011.*(a little old, I know)* I hope you will join me in welcoming David Tochen to the NTSB.”

And Second: November 7, 2011 “I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Thomas Zoeller** as the Director, Office of Communications. Tom has over twenty-four years of legal and managerial experience in the private, Federal, and legislative sectors. Since December 2009 he has served as the NTSB Executive Officer, dealing with legislative activities, including authorization and appropriations, coordinating the daily and strategic media message with the press office, and along with the Managing Director, coordinating international efforts of the NTSB with ICAO and other international organizations.

Tom has been working closely with Sharon Bryson and the rest of the OC team during the last year. I know they will continue to do great work and represent the agency well.”

(I've attempted to contact both David and Tom.)

Tom Hauter sent this email around the Board: In an effort to get ahead of the rumors I want to let you know that I met with the Chairman and the MD this morning and informed them of my decision to retire this spring. Working at the Safety Board has been fantastic, but it's time for me

to move on to other things that I want to do. After conferring with HR, my last day at the Safety Board will be June 1st. (More to come as the event nears.)

Tom Hauter also let us know about the passing of **Warren Wandel** an ASI and mentor in the Dallas- Ft Worth Office.

Karen Bury also passed on an older email about the passing of **Girard Steichen** on Oct. 21, 2011. I have a mailing address for his wife, Jean, if anyone has a desire to get in contact with her.

Member News:

Bob Barlett - I had a ride on the first A-380 flight in the U.S. It is like a flying hotel. (see the attachment, if you dare! I scanned it for viruses, several times!)

Mike O'Neill -As you know, I was the Safety Manager for the Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) in DC. WRAMC officially closed on Sept. 16, 2011. I am now working for ADT as their safety manager at BWI airport for the installation of a brand new security system. This is cutting edge technology that may spread to other airports. It looks like all the time I spent on answering those GD mail controls has finally paid off. Thanks!

Bob Trainor - Well, I'm at the end of my third week of retirement, and it's everything I had hoped it to be. So far, I've been decompressing and catching up on things at home. I think within the next week or two, I will start exploring different activities to get involved in. (Bob updated his contact info. (See the contact list.)

Chris Voeglie also updated his contact information. (See the contact list.)

Robert Moore (Our wonderful website designer!) also provided a more reliable email address that happens to relate to his love of cycling. (See the contact list.)

Jim Henderson (me) – A Canadian company interviewed me for a TV presentation on ValuJet. I understand that they also interviewed **Greg Feith**. Also the FBI contacted me to help as an expert witness on a HazMat case. Unfortunately, they were looking for a chemist. I sent them on to **Bob Trainor**. He couldn't work it into his schedule, so if there is a chemist out there who also knows aviation and hazardous materials, please give me a shout!

Look out guys, its Leap Year!

Jim Henderson

January 2012

We have one new member this month, our second inside man, Bob Benson, has joined our ranks. Please give him a shout and welcome him! His info is on the attached contact list. I've found younger blood for our third inside person. Karen Bury should keep us in touch with the Board for more than a few years!

New Members:

Bob Benzon ejected (as he put it) on December 30.

Board News:

The Silver Eagle challenge started this past month because the Board was mounting the old NTSB flag in a shadow box and needed the info to inscribe on a brass tag. Your help was greatly appreciated!

Member News:

Bob Benzon: I eject from the Safety Board on Dec 30. A low-level departure by my choice, with a division dinner downtown last evening as a good send-off. I would rather have a lit cigar rammed up my nose than attend a big party with me as the focal point. Ha!

My last official assignment for the Board was a somewhat dangerous speaking gig for the Civil Aviation Authority of Bermuda. It was risky, but I volunteered. See attached pic of Susan and I on the high seas.

[See Bob Benson Picture]

So, count me in as a Silver Eagle as of the New Year.

Tom Lasseigne and I were at **Bob Trainor's** retirement party. It was a good group for the send off!

[See Bob Trainor Picture]

[See Tom's Picture]

Miscellaneous:

Hope that we all have a wonderful New Year!

Jim Henderson

December 2011

We have two new members this month, one from my old office. I've been holding my breath on Christmas party announcements, but have yet to hear anything! The info on one retirement party is found below so I will put this out now and forward Christmas party news later. Also, I saw some real Silver Eagle interaction on the Medicare question. People started hitting me with

questions and Al Reitan woke me one morning at about 8 am to offer help. Yes, woke me at 8 o'clock – it might have been 8:30 – Hey, I'm retired! Anyway, his wife has dealt with these questions through her career. I attempted to link the questioners with her answers.

New Members:

Bob Trainor

Jim Conneely

Board News:

Bob Trainor will be retiring on December 31, after decades of distinguished public service. We are planning a retirement luncheon for Bob at **11:30 a.m. on Monday, December 19, at Phillips** Flagship Restaurant (900 Water Street, SW, Washington, DC; Tel No.: 202-488-8515).

The cost is \$25.00 per person. If you plan to attend, please let Ravi know for planning purpose, and pay Nancy Mason \$25.00 as soon as possible, but certainly by COB, Friday, December 16. Also, Nancy will be collecting contributions towards Bob's gift, if you would like to do so.

Please note that contribution towards Bob's gift is not a requirement to join us for lunch to say farewell to Bob, and vice versa. Ravi (202) 314-6644 Nancy (202) 314-6257

Bill Love from the General Counsel's office is retiring the end of the year. His farewell song went like this (DAEO = Designated Agency Ethics Official):

The latest rumor is ..

Dr. Love's done with NTSB biz!

So, sing it high and sing it low,
On the 12/31/2011, he'll *FINALLY* go!!

Thence, there'll be no mo' tales of **NO**
From his meanness, *Dr. No* ... the DAEO.

Just let me say, "What a ride it's been."
AND, "Farewell, I hope to see you again."

And if you wonder where I'll be ..
Prob'ly chillin' with my gal, Ginny ... maybe under a tree.

So, stop by and talk if you have time,
Or, send an email - drop me a line.
Honest, it doesn't have to rhyme.

Best to each and every one of you!

Jim Conneely – Member Rosekind’s special assistant, who came from the FAA.

Mbr Rosekind put this together: We have some mixed news to share about changes in our office. After two years apart, Jim Conneely is returning home to Chicago with plans to progress his relationship with April. You will certainly join us in congratulating Jim on this exciting new path with April. While he continues to confront his personal commitment challenges (he has not bought a ring, yet), Jim has accepted a position with United in Chicago.

Of course, this joyous life transition means that Jim will be leaving the NTSB, with his final day being Friday, Dec. 2. Jim has been in our office for about 14 months and has become an integral part of all of our efforts. We are going to miss his good nature, steady style, and many significant contributions to our office and the NTSB. He has become a trusted colleague and good friend.

Member News:

Thanks to the merging of questions on Medicare, an 8 am call, and a plan to go to an Irish music performance in Great Falls – where Al Reitan and his wife live – Me and my wife and Al and his wife went to the performance together! We had a lot of fun listening to music and sharing stories about the Board! I hope that this is happening among us in other places. Please share your experiences! (Oh, and yes I can hear Chip snorting – Irish music! – During our on-again – off-again carpool four of us fought over music or news in the car. When I drove, I typically I listened to news, but one day after listening to rounds of NPR violins and country music I put in a tape of Irish bar songs that brought considerable comment!)

Miscellaneous:

I’ve attached a video provided by Kay Sommerfeld that should provide some amusement for you barn stormers or should I say barn mowers? I saved it and watched in on Windows Media Player. It took a while to load up. **Don't worry if you can get it to work. No big deal!**

Merry Christmas to all and to all a Good Night! YEAH!

Jim Henderson

November 2011

Wow, it’s like we had a membership drive! We have **four** new members this month. If you remember them, then get in touch! If not, get in touch anyway! You can never have too many friends! Use the attached contact list. I’m going to add a note at the end of this for those who, like me, are approaching the magic Medicare age of 65. I’ll put it as an addendum because many of you have made that decision and others are not nearly that old.

New Members:

Butch Wilson – Aviation from Atlanta retired on Halloween! Scary for AS! He said, “I’m still in shock that I actually did it (retired). This came on suddenly I had not planned on retiring for several more years yet. But now that I have I will make the best of it.” He mentioned problems with management that we’ve heard before from others. He also added, “However, my wife has managed to find plenty of honey does to keep me busy for awhile while we have this down time. Hopefully, within the next year or two I will find the time to make some plans.” Get in touch and give him ideas!

Bill Hendricks – A pioneer aviation investigator with the Civil Aeronautics Board and then the NTSB when it inherited this function. He joined the FAA in the 1980's, and retired from there in the 1990s.

Jim LeBerte - retired on August 31st after 23 years with the Safety Board.

Ron Schleede - Head of major aviation accident investigations for many years.

Member News:

Elaine Weinstein just updated her email address and Stan Smith his home address. See the attached contact list.

“Just for chuckles, I attached a photo of an old grey-bearded guy studying the instruction sheets for flying his new toy.

The toy in question is a *second* glider that gleans askance from the old guy's spouse. It is a PIK-20E, manufactured by the Finns in 1981 and extensively restored by the immediately prior owner who upgraded. 40:1 glide ratio, with about 12:1 if you neglect to crank the motor down into its storage bay.

Old guy in question is **Michael Stockhill**, formerly of the Seattle office, and currently a snowbird between Polson, MT and Mesquite, NV.” (Mike sent this to us!)

Happy Thanksgiving! YEAH!

Silver Eagle Website is:

www.precisionwrite.com/SilverEagles.html

Jim Henderson

Medicare dilemma: Okay, here is what I found out from many of you and from a recent Federal health fair in the neighborhood. Medicare part A isn't the problem. You get it and it cost nothing. It takes care of your hospitalization. **Part B is the dilemma.** It currently costs about \$100 a month and it covers doctor's visits, etc – like your Federal health insurance. Several of you

mentioned being on Blue Cross-Blue Shield and it works fine. However, I like my current insurance (Aetna) and believed that it would work as well. I talked to an Aetna rep at the fair and it does not work well with Medicare. The rep at the fair indicated that Part B is unnecessary, if I have Aetna. In fact, if you have both Aetna and Part B, then Part B becomes the primary and almost everything – except prescriptions – that is not covered by Part B will **NOT** be picked up by Aetna. She then nodded to the table on her right and said that you might want to talk to them (Blue Cross-Blue Shield). Before I go onto BC-BS, this makes no sense! Aetna no longer has to pay hospitalization for us (Big Bonus!) and won't reimburse what Part B doesn't pay? HUH?

Now Blue Cross-Blue Shield's standard option (the better of the two) will pay the Part B \$162 deductible, copayments and coinsurance amounts, except for prescription drugs – basically everything else! Their basic option is **limited to network providers** only and covers everything the same as the standard option. However, I don't read that it covers the \$162 deductible. Then again the basic option is \$140 a month cheaper for family coverage!

Sooooo, if you are happy with your current prescription health insurance and have no desire to change – and if you can predict that your insurance or some other equally convenient government insurance will be in your area for the rest of your life, then you may not need Part B. In fact, with plans like Aetna you'd be **paying for nothing**. This sounds stupid – even to me – but you may find it cheaper to drop Federal insurance and stick with Part B. **Maybe** AARP has an insurance package that works with Medicare for nearly the same cost. **That said I would not gamble that way!** The Federal insurance is a bene that very few people have and once you drop it you can't pick it up again. Better to not pick up Part B. **BUT**, if you don't pick up Part B in the 5 months surrounding your birthday (my birthday is in August so I have from June thru October) then each year past 65 that you don't pick it up it will cost you an additional 10%. With the current rate of about \$100 that means \$10 per month additional for every year that you delay.

My decision is complicated by the fact that my young wife is nine years from being eligible for Medicare so I must maintain my Federal insurance for her. So – Plan B – yes or no? With my wife's and my retirement I believe that we can make the additional payment of \$100 a month without skimping on too much fun. If so, then Blue Cross/Blue Shield would be the best insurance option. We will have to check with our medical providers to be sure that they are network providers. If so, then we can use the basic option at no extra cost from Aetna. If not, then we need to either change doctors or bite the bullet and pay an additional \$140 a month for standard option. That might cut into the fun... I wish this was easier – and cheaper...

If anyone has anything to add that will make this decision easier – PLEASE Email!

October 2011

We have two new members this month. Again a personal favorite because I... (well, I guess that I can't say "recruited" because I didn't have that power) **strongly encouraged** to come to the Board. She'll be a real loss. The other is a highway investigator who will also be missed. If I remember correctly, he was on Highway's "A" team! At least when I was at a highway accident, he was there, too. Also, we have a second inside person now since Bob Benzon is talking about retiring in December. Karen Bury, formerly part of NTSB's legal team (including a stint as the Deputy GC), aviation's chief writer/editor and now the Senior Advisor to the Managing Director

for Program Quality, but I most remember her as riding herd on Bernie Loeb in the Office of Research and Engineering. Does anyone know what happened to Bernie? Any contact info?

New Members:

Crystal Thomas (HazMat) I accepted a job offer with BP doing Gulf of Mexico offshore investigations, so I'll be moving to Houston and becoming a Texan! I can't actually believe that I'm doing it, since I really love my job here, but it's a good opportunity and I don't want to regret not giving it a try.

Chris Voeglie (Highway in Atlanta) retired this month.

Board News:

Bob MacIntosh retired without ceremony. His parting note: "It is time for me to put the landing gear up and fly off to a new destination. I started my aviation career 55 years ago with a Cessna 140 at Ohio State University. I've held a fairly steady course/track since then in commercial and government aviation activities, and the last 23 years we have traveled together at the NTSB. What a great experience and an opportunity to contribute this has been.

I'm heading off to added interests and family activities – knowing that all you NextGen thinkers will strive for even greater improvements to keep us old folks safer and safer!

On a serious note, I have the upmost respect and admiration for each and every NTSB employee – and the mission we so dearly pursue. You have my very best wishes for the future." (I sent an email to Bob inviting him to join, but didn't hear back. If any of you want to try. Feel free. I have his address.)

Crystal Thomas' parting note: "Wow, I honestly can't believe that today is my last day working at the NTSB. From the time I spent here as a co-op student while attending Penn State, to the nearly 6½ years that I've worked here full-time as a hazardous materials investigator, NTSB has been like a home to me. My experience here has been truly amazing and unforgettable. As a hazardous materials accident investigator, I've been fortunate to work with all of the modal offices. I have been involved in many types of accidents, looked into many safety issues, and like to think that I've helped to raise awareness and make the transportation of hazardous materials a little safer. Throughout my time here I have met and worked with a lot of great people, from whom I've learned a lot of valuable things, and in the process made a lot of fabulous friends! So I just wanted to say thank you for everything... I am so appreciative!!"

Chris Voeglie, Highway in Atlanta, retired, and his parting note: "To my NTSB family,

It is with a heavy heart that I announce my time with the Safety Board must come to an end. As of Friday, I will be retiring from Federal service, and I hope to pursue a long time personal challenge. In so, I hope to again have the opportunity to work with some of you in the future.

I'm proud to have served with the Safety Board and it was an honor to have served with such a distinct group of dedicated professionals. We perform an important and difficult role in the pursuit of the truth while also advancing transportation safety. I'm thankful to have contributed to

such a worthy and important mission.

I will forever take pride in our accomplishments, for we have saved many lives through our individual and collective efforts.

My career at the Safety Board has been both exciting and challenging. The opportunity to develop the Office of Highway Safety's EDR program with the help of my OHS family was truly gratifying and I will miss with each and every one of you.

I would like to thank all everyone for all that you do to make the NTSB the most respected federal agency and to acknowledge the many friendships that will last for years to come.

As I depart, I will once again look upon you all with the same "awe" as the public, as we watch you launch to one major accident after another.

Please keep in touch and let me know what exciting new challenges you're facing.

I wish all the best!"

Timothy A. Borson died May 9, 2011 in Largo, Florida. As a teenager, Tim developed a love for flying. This passion was only matched by his love for cars. He could usually be found hanging out at the old Reese Airport in Selma, Indiana, or covered in paint or car grease while restoring antique cars. Tim was able to take a car apart or a jet engine with the precision of a surgeon. The restoration of a classic 57' Corvette, a source of great pride, was driven by his need to create, achieve, and excel.

His concern for others led him to develop SafePath, a patented safety device used on older model cars, creating under bumper lighting, and greater visibility. Always aware of those in need, he developed the program VOWHONOR FLIGHT. This program, still in the development stage, was to provide WW II veterans an opportunity to visit the national monument free of charge.

After graduating from Wapahani High School Tim received a BS degree in Aeronautics, Master Degree in Aeronautics and Space, and a Doctorate in Aero Safety Systems and Engineering at Oklahoma State University. He was a test pilot, and worked for the **NTSB (National Safety and Transportation Board) in Washington D.C.** His career with the NTSB spanned twenty-three years. During that time, he held several offices. He served as NTSB Catastrophic Investigator, Operations Group Chairman, Field Chief for the state of Alaska, and NTSB Regional Director of the South Central U.S. After leaving the NTSB, he authored a textbook on aeronautic systems and safety, and taught aeronautics at Oklahoma State University. Tim was the son of the late Sondo Borson and his mother, Micci; Lara, his daughter, (husband, Lloyd); sisters, Sonia Main (husband, Thamar), Cynthia Downham (husband, Mike), Diana Borson; an uncle, Earl Borson; and many nieces and nephews will miss him forever. Despite illness and suffering, Tim seldom

**Crap...
I forgot the words....**

I was going to credit the person who sent this, but I forgot who did, yikes! [This is an example of a submission that was saved for a future newsletter.]

Autumn is starting! Cool temps with beautiful trees. YEAH!

Jim Henderson

September 2011

Two new members this month. A voice from my personal past and a voice from my “personnel” past.

New Members:

Cliff Zimmerman – A neighbor and occasional carpooler from NTSB’s Pipeline and HazMat Division. We ran into each other biking on Burke Centre’s bike paths to and from the farmer’s market. Not literally! He is currently working with DOT’s Office of Pipeline Safety.

Bob Pyle – He was in NTSB personnel for about 20 years. “I now live at Innisbrook Golf Resort about a mile from the Gulf of Mexico in Palm Harbor, Florida...kind of a strange Florida location in that it has real rolling hills for about 5 miles kinda like No Virginia...it is near Clearwater...been in Tampa Bay area since 1999...

I left NTSB at a very bad time for me as my wife was very sick and I did not like the direction and activities of the NTSB leadership in 1998/9, but for her health and mine time to go...I did not get to say the good-bye to everyone I would have liked as they were so special to me having

been at NTSB for over 20 years...but, I am happy to say my wife has recovered well from her illness back then although she still has it and I am in pretty good health for a 68 year old guy...my wife and I met at NTSB... [Georgette Conneen/Terembes] worked there for about a year, and have been married 25 years this October..."

He also mentioned getting in touch with Hector to get information on cruises for his 25th wedding anniversary. His address is in the contact list.

Miscellaneous:

Jay Kivowitz's ashes were placed at Horseshoe Curve near Altoona, PA. Following is the photo of Jay, who passed away in February, on the cab of ex-PRR Steam Locomotive No. 1361 (Class K-4s). Taken April 12, 1987, Tyrone, PA. The locomotive engineer is William Withuhn, who, at that time, was Director of the Transportation Smithsonian, in Wash. D.C. The locomotive operated 1987-1988 and was later sidelined for mechanical problems. It is now under restoration by Railroader's Memorial Museum, Altoona, PA.

Photo by David Seidel.

One quick question for my near future decision: Turning 65 next August and will begin Medicare. Do any of you know which government medical insurance plans work exceptionally well with – or exceptionally badly with – Medicare? Any advice???

Autumn is starting! Out of the frying pan and into cooler weather!

Jim Henderson

August 2011

One new member this month. Oh, and Ludwig (last month's new member had me correct his last name "Benner." – I'll have to check with Chip, but I'd swear that the office called our HazMat founder "Brenner." My mistake!

New Member:

Mitch Garber – Board Doctor extraordinaire! He said that he left the Board to work in the private sector. His address is in the contact list.

Board News:

Jim Prichart at the training facility has offered to let us attend courses for free. Admittedly, it is only specific courses that he schedules and not the pricey ones offered to the outside agencies. I've suggested that I don't really need certifications for all courses and asked if I could sit at the back of the room and audit some of the pricey ones. He said that he'd take it under advisement.

I took HazWoper and Confined Space recertification with a fun group of current Board Employees and our new member, Ludwig Benner, attended the Advanced Composite Materials training.

Member News:

Michael P. O'Neill: I'm the safety manager for Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC). I was hired as a consultant for 6 months until they officially close in Sept. In that time, I have seen the worse that can happen to our young wounded warriors in combat. I saw a lot of things while working on accidents at the Board but this experience at WRAMC has changed my life. When you actually sit down and talk to these young soldiers, we really have nothing to complain about. They've already spent their time in hell. Take Care!

Miscellaneous:

Here is an apparently true story from a high school friend of mine:

A plane flying from Seattle to San Francisco was unexpectedly diverted to Sacramento. The flight attendant explained that there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft, the plane would re-board in 50 minutes.

Everybody got off the plane except one lady who was blind and had her seeing-eye dog, Buddy, lying quietly underneath the seats in front of her.

She had apparently been on this flight before because the pilot approached her after landing and said, "Kathy, we are in Sacramento for almost an hour. Would you like to get off and stretch your legs?" The blind lady replied: "No thanks, but maybe Buddy would like to stretch his legs."

Now **picture** **this:**

All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a Seeing Eye dog. The pilot was even wearing sunglasses. People scattered. They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines!

True story... Have a great day and remember...

THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS AS THEY APPEAR.

Enjoy the Summer! It's been a toasty one!

Jim Henderson

July 2011