



Silver Eagles Newsletter

May 2014

Silver Eagles,

This newsletter will be a little odd. I just spent the last week and a half in Florida visiting relatives and a couple of friends - and I've received NO personal input from our members. Hint! Hint! for next time - please! However, I do have a couple of items to share and a request for help for a relative of a couple of our members.

Board News:

Several Silver Eagles were at Debbie Hersman's departure ceremonies! My heads-up wasn't too late! I have attached a photo of Debbie, Rob Hall (Dir of RPH – the current Bob Chip), and me. (See *Debbie departure photo*) Debbie is going to National Safety Council as its president and CEO. Chris Hart will be Acting Chairman – or – actually IS Acting Chairman... Many of you may remember Chris from the early '90s. He returned to the board in 2009; that's after I retired so I was surprised to run into him!



Unfortunately, I missed this year's awards ceremony. The results of the major awards are as follows:

Major Awards

- **Chairman's Award:**
 - Paul Sledzik - Office of Communications
- **Managing Director's Award:**
 - Michael Flanigon - Office of Railroad, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Investigations
- **Dr. John K. Lauber Science and Engineering Award:**
 - Joseph Panagiotou - Office of Research and Engineering
- **Nall-Raskin Public Service Award:**
 - Mark Jones – Office of Railroad, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Investigations
- **Distinguished Investigative Service Award:**
 - Michael Hiller, Office of Railroad, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Investigations
 - Paul Cox, Office of Aviation Safety
 - David Lawrence, Office of Aviation Safety
 - Robert Squire, Office of Highway Safety
 - David Watson, Office of Railroad, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Investigations
- **Distinguished Employee Service Award:**
 - Frank Perla, Office of Administration

- Candice Brown, Office of Administration
- Monica Mitchell, Office of Marine Safety
- Margaret Athey, Office of Railroad, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Investigations
- **EEO, Diversity**
- Beverley Drake, Office of Aviation Safety
- **Employee Peer Award:**
- Kristin Poland, Office of Research and Engineering

I still recognize several of the names!

Finally the appeal from Bridget Serchak:

Drucie Anderson, wife of my former NTSB boss Ted Lopatkiewicz, is asking that you read this story about her disabled brother and requesting your support of the petition. As the daughter of a woman who worked with the mentally challenged most of her professional life, I am incredulous and appalled that this situation has occurred and is so dire. Please consider supporting Drucie (and Ted) by signing this petition and hopefully proper support will be offered by the state of Maryland . They are copied on this email, should you need additional information. This petition is a courageous and creative way of generating support for a loved one that I have decided to support. Please pass along to anyone else you may know who either know Ted and/or Drucie or who may have an interest/ability to support them in their quest.

http://www.change.org/petitions/bernard-a-simons-help-my-61-year-old-disabled-brother-alfred-knapp-by-petitioning-the-state-of-maryland-before-he-becomes-homeless-on-may-27-2014?utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=share_facebook_mobile&recruiter=96173690

Thanks so much.
Bridget

PS Jim, if you would consider sharing this with the Silver Eagles as you deem appropriate, I know both Ted and Drucie would be most appreciative – this is an opportunity for the NTSB family to support two of their own (as you recall, Drucie was in the NTSB PA shop for a number of years – and that is where she and Ted first met) as they try to support their own family. Thanks!

Bridget's email address is bserchak@comcast.net.

Jim Henderson