



## Silver Eagles Newsletter

February 2015

### Silver Eagles,

We have one new member this month! I have received some great responses to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017! Hector has challenged us to a Rec. Off! (see below) Ted thinks that the 50th will never happen because the current employees are... well, ghosts! LOL Let's see what us old-timers can get done. Hey, they typically get the "ghosts" back for the awards ceremony. I'd like to see that as well. I believe that the two events have been linked in the past.

### New Members:

**Carolyn Dargan**

### Member News:

**Carolyn Dargan** - I started working at the Safety Board in April 1975 as a Clerk Typist. Left the Board in Sept. 1986 to work at the Federal Election Commission until April 1988. Came back to the Safety Board May 1988 until I retired Oct. 2005. I held quite a few positions at the Board.

I was an Editorial Assistant from 1988 thru 1989, an Administrative Assistant from June 1989 to Sept. 1990, an Investigative Assistant (Aviation) from Sept 1990 to Nov. 1996, an Administrative Assistant (Logistics) from Nov. 1996 to Nov. 1998, and a Conference Planning Specialist from Nov. 1996 until in retired October 2005.

I am currently enjoying life with my family and friends. I enjoy watching movies, television, and computer games.



**Misc:**

**50<sup>th</sup> Celebration:**

**Jim Hall** said about the 50th: “Yes... we need an idea and I will advance it with Chris (Chairman Hart). Maybe you can poll everyone and see what they might like to do?” (*How about ideas!*)

**Hector Casanova:** I wanted to drop you a line to encourage you to continue on course with your plans for our growing group. I for one, will make every effort to make the reunion to celebrate the first half century of our Board. I also agree that we could take a more proactive role as a group of professional safety “addicts.” Safety and accident prevention is still an integral part of our daily lives, and we can still could be an asset to the Board and to other agencies and groups that are constantly striving to improve the safety of our nation’s transportation system.

We could be used as a “think tank” or as a sounding board for new ideas or safety systems. As a Auxiliary to the Board, we could do a lot of functions on a truly unbiased way. I am sure that are a lot of ideas and suggestion we all had and either they were never introduced or debated. The potential for this talented group of safety professionals is great, and even thou our hair is either gone or gray, as a group these Silver Eagles can still soar with the best and we DO have a lot to offer.

Another thing I would like to add is that it does not matter where live...the Board has proven that we can do a lot from the comfort of our own homes, we can even brainstorm from our computers and smart phones.

To prove that we are not “asleep at the wheel” **why don’t we challenge our group to send you ONE safety recommendation or suggestion they would like to see implemented on any mode of transportation. The challenge is to write it in less than 100 words. (*I’ve been thinking back over old recs that I made that were ignored by industry. I could probably cobble a hazmat idea or two together in less than a hundred words. Not sure how we develop the justification (analysis) without current victims or property damage. Hector! Are you willing to collect the input?*)**

**Bridget Serchak** put some effort into the project and got the following input, both negative and positive from Ted and Pat (below).

**Ted Lopatkiewicz:** I'd be surprised if the Board does anything for its 50th other than a press release. Have you been to the building lately? Peter could tell us if I'm wrong, but it's a ghost town. Everyone's on RDOs or working at home. I see 2017 passing very quietly.

**Pat Cariseo:** I was involved in putting together 3 publications focusing on the agency's history and anniversaries. Ted L. did the original, We Are All Safer, which was used as a guide for the others. Ted was one of the few who thought tracking the agency's history was important. Bob Barlett was also great at it. I think we changed it from We Are All Safer to Lessons Learned. They included a compilation of the most important investigations and recommendations. The last one was issued in 2007 to mark the 40th. I probably have a copy in a box somewhere or the graphic artist, if there still is one, has the electronic version. These publications used to be on the NTSB website, but I havent seen them there for the past few years. When I left, I was hoping the agency would give someone collateral duty of tracking the agency's history. When I worked on the project, all sorts of stuff was missing, or stuffed in boxes in the basement (I interceded once in saving a lots of documents from being tossed out) or a room off Public Affairs. Nuttin organized or catalogued and hundreds of pix with basic info lacking. I had to go to the Coast Guard archives cause we were missing dozens of marine reports and Embry-Riddle's website because they had a

complete list of aviation reports on line and at the time, NTSB had none of its reports had been scanned prior to the early 80s. Hopefully that has changed. My suggestion is that Public Affairs should probably be tasked with putting together an updated publication for the 50th anniversary. **As far as something representing the Silver Eagles, might be interesting to put together a compilation of interesting stories from retirees.** (*Stories! Assuming you mean old war stories from our time at the board – or current stories about life after? What...? shall we say 3 paragraphs or less for presentation at the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration.*)

*I note that I have a copy of the CD, “Lessons Learned and Lives Saved 1975 – 2005” from the 30<sup>th</sup> reunion if someone would like to update it or knows someone at the Board who would like to do the work! THIS IS EXCITING!*)

#### **New Year’s Resolutions:**

**Linda Jones:** My resolution for 2015 was not to make any resolutions for 2015 because I’ve finally learned I never keep them. So far I’ve done very well. Please push for the 50th anniversary. It would be so good to see everyone. Thanks for all your work on this project - and a belated Happy New Year to all.

**Happy St Patty’s Day!** I just spent the evening listening to Irish music in the Ol Brogue in Great Falls! **Keep those 50th ideas coming!** Also **send me a quick note** if you are contemplating putting this onto your Two-Years-in-the-Future calendar. That way I can start getting a really – really tentative count of those vaguely interested. ;-)

Don’t forget the Silver Eagle Website: [www.precisionwrite.com/SilverEagles.html](http://www.precisionwrite.com/SilverEagles.html)

Jim Henderson