



Silver Eagles Newsletter

January 2015

Silver Eagles,

We have two new members this month! Member Rosekind has departed. I admit to being confused with Member Rosenker! I've been away too long! I have delayed putting this newsletter out because I've been trying to determine what the Board's plans are for the 50th anniversary in 2017. Karen Bury, our inside person, checked around and didn't find anyone who is even thinking about it! I bumped into Frank Hilldrup at the DC Auto Show (he was playing hooky on Friday) and he complained that the work-from-home policy has broken down the comradery that once existed at the Board. They don't seem to be getting together for anything anymore. I'd like to ask each of you with contacts at the Board to start pushing the issue, BECAUSE I'd like to use that as a motivator to get a large group of Silver Eagles back to DC for a reunion in 2017. That gives us two years to plan!

New Members:

Mark George (AS-60 survival factors investigator)

Lola Ward

Board News:

Member Mark Rosekind departing message:

Dear NTSB Colleagues and Friends,

Well ... after seven launches, 49 board meetings, 8 hearings, countless presentations, symposiums, forums, safety studies, and so much more, it is time to say farewell. Today, I am being sworn in as the 15th Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Thank you so much for being part of my nearly five years at the NTSB. It has been wonderful! This treasured experience was made possible by all of you and everything that I learned at the NTSB goes with me to my new position. My departure comes quickly due to a fast confirmation and coincides with the busy holiday season. A New Year opportunity to return to the NTSB for a more personal goodbye is already being explored. It has been a tremendous privilege to be a member of the dedicated and passionate safety professionals at the NTSB.

Please take care and continue to move ever forward in advancing your invaluable safety mission. Also, please stay in touch via e-mail: nhtsa.administrator@dot.gov or phone: (202) 366 - 1836. It would be great to hear from you, filling me in on how you are doing or hearing your ideas for further enhancing transportation safety.

I wish you all great success, happiness, and good health during the holidays, in the New Year, and for the future. [I invited him to join. He indicated that he wasn't retiring and I let him know there are several of us who are still working. I haven't heard back.]

Lola Ward retired January 5, 2015. Like many of us, she said, "It is a bitter sweet feeling I know I will miss NTSB but I do look forward to my next adventure!"

Member News:

Robert Moore, in communication with **Jack Drake**, indicated that he has other priorities and doesn't get around to updating our site regularly. I note that Robert and I are volunteers and enjoy what we are doing, but neither of us would turn down help from other members who are looking for relatively easy chores, like a monthly update of the website after these newsletters. I'd even enjoy someone actively searching for member/NTSB news to add to the monthly newsletters – or someone with better grammar than I (or is that "me") and a computer artistic ability who would like to pretty-up these newsletters! Maybe the 2017 reunion can be used to make our organization more formal – and perhaps elect new volunteers! ;-) I've never been political and have kept this small scale – not that I wanted anything more, but greater involvement by other Silver Eagles will increase the likelihood of a self-sustaining organization.

Jack Drake provided a new email address. (see attached contact list)

Misc:

Don't forget the Silver Eagle Website: www.precisionwrite.com/SilverEagles.html

How about sending me your New Year's resolutions for February's newsletter and how long they lasted! Last year I resolved to relearn Spanish. I worked on Rosetta Stone for 4 months and got a little better, but other priorities took over. I need to get back to it. If I can only remember my password! This year's resolution will be to begin promoting the 50th anniversary/reunion. How about yours??

Jim Henderson