



Silver Eagles Newsletter

October 2015

Silver Eagles,

We have no new members this month! I sent a couple of emails out, but no response to date. We have a fairly recent new-mommy in Crystal. Oh and there has been a major change in the government healthcare options; **a single plus one option!** Check it out, esp the retiree's.

New Members: None

Board News:

This should be past tense because I didn't get it on time, but: On Thursday, October 15th at 2:00pm CFO will host a retirement celebration for **Gina Diaz**. Gina is celebrating 26 years of federal service and 6 years as a budget analyst with the NTSB in the Office of the CFO. Gina's contributions will be greatly missed.

Please join the CFO team in thanking her for all she has done and wishing her a happy retirement. Light refreshments will be served.

Mary Mikkola: It is time for me to say Good Bye as tomorrow is my last day here at NTSB. I have enjoyed being the HR Assistant but my career is moving on as I have accepted a Human Resources Specialist position with ARS/USDA in Beltsville, MD. Working with all of you for the last 7 ½ years has been memorable and I will miss you.

Best of luck and health to each of you in your future endeavors. Your contributions to the success of the NTSB mission are valuable and greatly appreciated.

[I tried to contact both before they left NTSB.]

Member News:

Crystal Thomas Callais – Here are a few pictures of my handsome little man! Some from when he was first born and a couple more recent. Wasn't sure how many you wanted. There are a ton on Facebook too. (See Crystal photos below and in the Photo Gallery.)



Colton Thomas Callais was born on July 6, 2015 at 12:31pm. He weighed 8lbs 15oz and 21 1/4 inches long. We are absolutely in love with this little guy!!! I'm enjoying every minute with him and watching him grow (too fast)! Can't get enough of his sweet little smile. He's such a blessing... we're so lucky to have him in our lives! I can't believe he's already 11 weeks old!

Ron Battocchi - Jim, you have shamed me into submitting the following:

For twenty years, the highlight of my family's summers has been a high school church trip building and rehabbing houses for a week. It's been an enriching and rewarding experience. The group has varied between 35-55 students and adults. The youth learn practical building skills, team work and the value of helping others. I am always amazed by the energy, focus, camaraderie, and happiness of our teams and their willingness to work hard even if the weather is hot and humid. We have worked in Richmond, Kentucky, Scranton, and for the past few years, western Maryland, near West Virginia. Until last year, I focused on the building part of the program. We bring our own kitchen team which prepares three filling and nutritious meals a day, and I am now in the kitchen. Our cooking crew (see photo below and in the Photo Gallery) is in need of a little more gender diversity.

Thanks for doing all this.



Misc:

Healthcare Insurance Open Season: Federal Benefits Open Season - Announcing NEW Enrollment Type

The Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program is introducing the new Self Plus One (SPO) enrollment type during this annual FEHB Open Season which begins on Monday November 9, 2015. All change requests made during the FEHB Open Season will be effective January 1, 2016.

New SPO Enrollment Type: Allows you to **cover yourself and one eligible family member** that you designate as your covered dependent. For general information regarding SPO visit www.opm.gov/selfplusone.

Beginning October 13, 2015 you may call 1-800-332-9798 to speak to a customer service representative who will be able to answer general questions about SPO.

If you decide to change to the SPO enrollment type, you may do so during the FEHB Open Season. The FEHB Open Season period for Federal retirees and survivor annuitants is November 9, 2015 through December 14, 2015.

Your FEHB Open Season materials will be mailed to you in the last week of October 2015.

For information on comparing health plans visit:

<http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/plan-information/compare-plans>.

United States Office of Personnel Management

I just got a notice from Blue Cross/ Blue Shield that the Federal government's plan will now offer a Self Plus One enrollment that is supposed to be cheaper than the Family coverage.

50th Celebration: Nothing new this month.

I hope others of you follow Ron and Crystal's example and (even if you are "shamed" into it) send some news!

Happy Halloween! Hope all of your scares are little ones!

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

Jim Henderson