



Silver Eagles Newsletter

July 2017

Silver Eagles,

We have 1 new member this month, a former Board Member! Also, we have news! An IIC promoted in Aviation, and one of our members takes us on a cross-Atlantic trip!

New Member:

Patricia Goldman, former Board Member (see contact list)

Board News:

This from **Dennis Jones**, Acting Managing Director – thru **Lorenda**: I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Timothy LeBaron** as the Deputy Director for Regional Operations, Office of Aviation Safety (AS).

Tim joined the NTSB in 2003, as a non-paid Investigative Assistant in the Western Pacific Region, Seattle, Washington. During his 14-year tenure at the NTSB he has held various investigator positions including Senior Air Safety Investigator in the Central Region and Senior Aviation Accident Investigator in the Major Investigations Division in Washington, D.C. As a highly experienced investigator-in-charge (IIC), he has led over 300 general aviation accidents across the lower 48 states (from the East Coast to the West Coast) and up to Alaska. In addition, Tim has represented the United States in airline accidents around the world to include, Afghanistan, Russia, Japan, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates.

Prior to joining the Safety Board, Tim was an Assistant Professor at Vincennes University, Indianapolis, Indiana where he lectured and provided hands on training to future aircraft maintenance technicians.

He holds a Bachelor of Aeronautical Technology degree from Purdue University and a Master of Aeronautical Science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. As an active pilot, he holds a commercial pilot certificate for single-engine land, single-engine sea, multi-engine land, and an instrument rating. He also has an Airframe and Powerplant technician certificate with Inspection Authorization.

Please join me in congratulating Tim and welcoming him as our newest member of the Senior Executive Service.

Fiftieth Reunion News

Hoping that the Fiftieth was going to happen and thinking back over my fond memories at the Board, I remembered one that didn't relate to accident investigations. When the Board moved from the FAA building, my office was just down the hall from the small room used as a Board Room. As I passed I'd look at all of the plaques of award winners that hung on the walls and dream of having my name engraved on one. After we took over the Oriental Theatre, the plaques weren't hung in the current Board Room and after a few years I began wondering why. My investigation determined that they had been misplaced during the move. I kept subtle pressure up until they were located and hung. Not long after that my name was indeed engraved on the Dr John K Lauber plaque to my great pleasure!!!!

Member News:

Patricia Goldman said that she learned about the Silver Eagles when “**Ted and Drucie and Ron and Mary** were recently visiting me at my summer home in Chautauqua, NY.” **Ted Lopatkiewicz** provided a picture of the meeting. He said, “Back row are three Silver Eagles, **Ron Battocchi, Ted Lopatkiewicz and Drucella Andersen.** Front row new Silver Eagle **Pat Goldman**, with Ron's wife Mary Bell, and Pat's husband Steve Kurzman.” (SEE **Pat Goldman Pic!!!**)



Scott Dunham sent: Katie and I will be spending the next week on the Queen Mary 2 en route to visiting some friends in Southampton. They live about 5 miles from the pier, so this seemed like the most efficient way to get to them. Unfortunately, we're flying back from Heathrow at the end of the month... *I mentioned-You couldn't spend more time? I made that trip in a troop transport ship - as a dependent - and we hit the tail end of a hurricane - and it was not fun! QM2 should be a bit better.* And Scott replied, I'm retired, but wife isn't! So now we're on her schedule. QM2 goes back and forth every week, and yes, it's a lot better than a troop ship, although they do have a small exhibit on board about use of cruise liners as troop transports. They evidently crammed 15,000 on to the Cunard liners during WWII. Would have been cozy. *I just said that ours was military, not Cunard...and not cozy – although Dad, an Army Lieutenant Colonel, was the ranking officer, when he wasn't puking! Definitely not a sailor.*

When **Scott** returned he added:

Since you're fishing for material...my wife Katie and I just returned from a trip to the UK, eastbound on the Queen Mary 2 and then airplane home. The captain of the ship said it was probably the smoothest crossing he had ever made: we have a completely bogus notion of North Atlantic conditions, as it looked like a lake all the way across. Apparently the westbound trip the previous week was a bit more exciting – the ship had to divert to rescue a sailboater in trouble. The fellow had to scuttle his boat once safety was assured, but if you have to have a bad trip, getting picked up by the QM2 is a good option. Some of our fellow passengers had been on the trip over and said they'd run into the sailor afterward. He reported being put in an extremely nice vacant suite, which certainly beats bobbing around in a raft.

We visited some long-time friends who live about 5 miles from the ship's home port at Southampton, so it was definitely the easiest way of getting to them. We also went to Dover, where our former UK neighbor is now living, and he took us up to a nice park overlooking the ferry port. It was a spectacular day for that. We could actually see glints from cars moving around on the French side of the Channel, and track the departing ferries all the way across – VERY non-UK weather! All in all, it was a super trip, and we can definitely recommend the QM2 as reasonable accommodation. We booked the trip at a very good price through vacationstogo.com - they usually have some hefty cruise discounts available, especially on short notice for those with some scheduling flexibility. (and no, we're not getting a cut!)

Chris Julius said that he met **Rudy Giuliani**.

Miscellaneous:

Please keep the news coming! Don't forget the Silver Eagle Website: www.precisionwrite.com/SilverEagles.html

Have a Happy ? – sheesh... what is August good for ? – aside from my birthday – and HEAT! Got to love DC summers! NOT!

Jim Henderson