



Silver Eagles Newsletter

November 2017

Silver Eagles,

We have no new members this month. Holiday parties announcement and a request if one of our local Silver Eagles wants to expand the event. LOTS of news this month! Oh, and I need to apologize for my screw up in announcing a program that we could have attended, but I didn't understand the announcement. See below.

New Members:

Board News:

The unofficial Jolly Holiday party will be back at Sine Irish Pub, located in Pentagon Row. It will be December 7th from 4:30 – 9:30. **Lorenda** asked if someone from our **Silver Eagles** would be interested in sprucing up the holiday party to **celebrate our 50th?** Since the theme for the 50th anniversary is past, present and future – maybe we could do a Christmas Carol theme. If you think there would be a large turnout, I could work on securing a whole restaurant but that would require a min \$\$ and a deposit put down. Let me and Lorenda know your thoughts.

Robert Sumwalt thru Lorenda: I am pleased to announce my appointment of **Dennis Jones** to the position of Managing Director. This is a noncareer appointment to the SES and I am delighted that he has accepted.

Dennis has served as Acting Managing Director since January 2017 and has been invaluable in assisting me in managing agency operations since assuming this critical role. A 38-year veteran of the NTSB, working at headquarters and in our regional offices, Dennis is a proven and accomplished supervisor, manager, and senior leader. He possesses a strong ability to effectively lead people and build coalitions. Dennis also has extensive experience and broad understanding of transportation safety issues both domestically and in the international arena with government entities, transportation organizations and associations and industries.

Dennis received his bachelor's degree in aviation technology from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida, and holds a commercial pilot's certificate with multiengine ratings. He is also a Certified Aircraft Maintenance Technician and Certified Avionics Technician.

Please join me in welcoming Dennis as the new NTSB Managing Director. As always, thank you for your dedication and hard work to improve transportation safety.

This from **Jeff Guzzetti - Kathy Silbaugh** was selected as the new Chief General Counsel of the NTSB ! You may recall that Kathy was an attorney hired by Ron Battochi back in 2000. She then left NTSB in 2010 for a promotion as the Deputy Director for the Ethics Division at Department of Justice. She then moved on to lead the Financial Disclosure office at the Administrative Office of the Courts in 2013, and was selected as an SES manager at the Department of Health and Human Services in 2016. When the opening popped up at NTSB, she threw her hat in the ring and was selected. She is back home at NTSB.

Meanwhile, her husband [*Kathy's*]- former NTSB aviation investigator and manager **Jeff Guzzetti** [*the author of this in the third person*], is finishing up his last few months as the Director of FAA's Accident Investigation Division. He retires in March after a 31 years in the Federal Government. He hopes to do a little teaching, a little writing, and a lot of Boy Scouting with his two sons.

From **Lorenda - Mr. Max Green** has re-joined the Office of Safety Recommendations and Communications as a Transportation Disaster Assistance Specialist (Emergency Preparedness). Mr. Green has more than 15 years of experience coordinating, planning and providing direct assistance services to victims of disasters and individuals in crisis.

Please join me in welcoming Mr. Green!

Also from **Lorenda - Mr. Muhamed el-Zoghbi** has re-joined the Office of Railroad, Pipeline and Hazardous Material as a Supervisory Pipeline & Hazmat Investigator. Mr. el-Zoghbi has more than 15 years of experience conducting research, investigations and overseeing efforts to prevent accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials and occupational health deficiencies.

Please join us in welcoming Mr. el-Zoghbi!

Member News:

This also from Jeff Guzzetti - I noticed that you still had **Phil Powell** on your addressee list.

He passed away a couple weeks ago. He as a true gentlemen, and a good man. He worked as an NTSB air safety investigator in the regions for many years, and gradually rose to become the Regional Director of the Southwest Regional Office.

Please find attached the program for his funeral, and a link to his obituary.

<http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Phillip-Powell&lc=9507&pid=186821439&uuid=05340f61-7b7f-4526-869f-5b030ce4e415>

Carl Dinwiddie in response to **Scott's** input into last month's newsletter.

Good Oshkosh shots Scott!

Blue Angels looked great.

Somehow I managed to have flown 4 of the 8 aircraft that the demonstration team has flown over the years.

This from **Malcolm Brenner** - Happy to report that I have news to contribute to the newsletter and, for my family at least, big news. We are moving to Hiroshima Japan! My wife, a physician, has been offered a three year position at the Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF), a scientific facility run jointly by Japan and the United States, that maintains an extensive medical database on survivors of the atomic bombings and their children to help understand the long-term health effects of radiation exposure. Alina just arrived in Japan to start her work and find an apartment. The children and I leave for Japan to join her on December 24 and, after a short rest, the children attend an International School with classes in English at Kobe (about two hours away). Sophie and Elia, twins who are now 15 years old, are in 10th grade. It is bittersweet for me to have them move away from home although we will see them regularly during the school year. I hope to continue part-time professional work and will maintain my current cell phone and e-mail accounts. I encourage Silver Eagle members who visit Japan (or pass through the area on an endless flight home from Australia) to contact me so we can meet over a beer.

Took the liberty of attaching a bunch of recent family photographs, included especially for those who, like me, believe their colleague's children are still 3 years old. (See Photos)

Hope this e-mail finds you well. Enjoyed the last newsletter, especially the part about New Zealand. Thank you for putting it together.

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This from **Bridget Serchak**- Please join us for an opportunity to view a groundbreaking documentary produced by Voice of America (where I am the PR director):

"Boko Haram: Journey from Evil" is a one-hour documentary that profiles the brave actions of Nigerians—particularly three women—who bring hope to their communities even in the midst of crisis. Their stories, combined with video footage seized from Boko Haram, is a compelling look at the ISIS-aligned terror group and how Nigerians are peacefully pushing back.

Invite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/boko-haram-journey-from-evil-film-screening-tickets-28535274775?aff=es2>

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/236403313>

Please feel free to share with others you think might be interested. *(I screwed up and didn't realize that Bridget was putting on a presentation on November 2, which we could have attended. I thought that the documentary was attached... Sorry! She said that the documentary should be available on-line soon.)*

Miscellaneous:

Okay, I love this kind of a newsletter – full of news. Please keep it up! Workshops? Volunteer work? Vacations? Please! Please!

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

Have a fantastic Thanksgiving! Gobble it up!

Jim Henderson