

An association of friends and former employees of the National Transportation Safety Board

Silver Eagles Newsletter November 2018

Silver Eagles,

We have no new members this month. Thanksgiving is coming and so is Black Friday. My computer is giving up the ghost. I took two days just getting to my Word and email! So if this letter looks a little hinky, be happy you received it.

New Members: NONE

Board News: NONE

Member News:

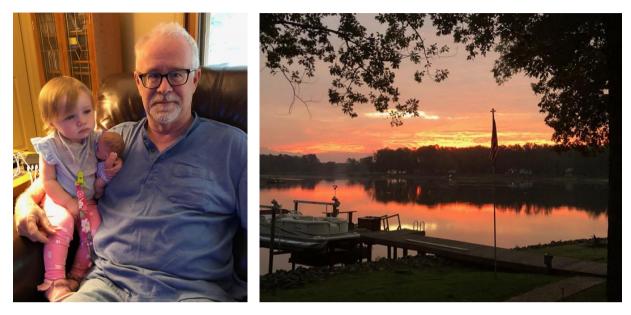
Hi Jim. Julie Beal here. Thought you might want to add this to the next newsletter.

Hi all. I enjoy keeping up with you through Jim's newsletters and hope that everyone is doing well. I thought it appropriate to share a little information that may be of interest to some of you. I'm sure that many of the silver eagles remember **Betty Scott** -- the backbone of the Board's Government Affairs office for over 23 years. Betty has been diagnosed with lung cancer and has recently undergone a round of chemotherapy to shrink the tumor to a operable size. The surgery will take place during the week after Thanksgiving. Betty, always the trooper, remains positive and optimistic, but I'm sure that any words of encouragement from her old friends and coworkers would be warmly received. Betty and Julie's email should be on the attached contact list.

Happy holidays to all of you. This from **Greg Phillips**: Thank you for your great work on keeping us connected. I really appreciate it and look forward to the updates.

As far as news: I am still acting as the National Aviation Safety Consultant with Willis Towers Watson. This has been my primary part time work since leaving the Board almost 15 years ago now. I am also helping to teach some of the Aviation Safety Courses at the University of Southern California (USC). I've been with USC for about 10 years now. My wife Debbie and I still live in Waldorf but bought a small house in 2015 for retirement on Lake Murray (Columbia SC). We are slowly transitioning down there. Our first granddaughter finally came along about 15 months ago. She is our son Matt's. Our son Chris, who some at the Board will remember, is living in Los Angeles and doing well. I always enjoy the photos so here are a couple from me.

[See attached photos. He titled one, "My morning coffee sunrise view from the back porch at our Lake house. It never gets old. My morning coffee sunrise view from the back porch at our Lake house. It never gets old" and the other, "Our granddaughter Sage (14 months), me (considerably older)."]



This from **Scott Dunham**: I just got back from a cruise aboard the Norwegian Bliss out of Los Angeles. Dream Vacations, our parent travel company, held our annual convention on the ship attended by something like 1000 travel agents and travel company representatives. I have been on several cruises, but this one ended up being a "first." The itinerary was supposed to be Mazatlan, Puerto Vallarta, and Cabo San Lucas. Two hours after departing LA harbor, the captain announced that because of a hurricane affecting all three ports were we now going to San Francisco, San Diego, and Ensenada. (Which is covered by the fine print in every cruise contract...). As it was about 60 degrees in San Francisco, this greatly increased sweatshirt sales from the ship store. We arrived about 630 in the morning, and I was able to get some nice pictures of the skyline. (See Photo.) I ended up renting a car in SF and running a couple of friends from Atlanta around the city and over to the cliff on the north side of the Golden Gate Bridge. It wasn't the trip we expected, but it ended up being a nice experience anyway - and I still have an excuse to go visit the Mexican coast since we never actually got there!



Ron Battocchi spotted a **Ted Lopatkiewicz's** tweet and photo in the October 19th Washington Post, "Finally! Some fall colors in McLean." (See photo) *Of note, the article was about the very odd fall here. By now the Washington area is in full fall glory, but not this year. Looking out my office window I see only one tree that is not green. I included one tree photo that I took November 3^{rd}. This is what the trees should have looked like in October. By November they are usually leafless.*



Miscellaneous:

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

Have a glorious Thanksgiving! Hopefully, we will be surrounded by fall colors by then. Also, have a Merry Christmas, if I don't get this computer fixed or own a new one! I suspect that I'm going to lose this Word copy of this letter!! – but it got out.

Jim Henderson