

Aerie News

The Eagles Aerie News of the **USAir**

Third Quarter 2025

Soaring Eagles

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Secretary

Judi Todd

Past President

Joe Kernan

Advisors to the Board – Bill Leefe, Butch Schofield, Ron Natalie

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

410-991-6070

Captain Dave Pfaff

pflyer34@gmail.com

It's fall, and nearly a year has passed since the devastating effects of hurricane Helene ripping through NC where I live with my sister. Just last month we were able to get back to normal on her horse farm due to the damage.

That's my world, but we, the board and membership, would love to hear what's going on in your world.

The convention is but a month away and many have not signed up yet. It's where members catch up with their friends with past memories and experiences this past year.

Please visit the Usair Soaring Eagles site to register for the convention while there are still rooms left at the Marriott West Shore Tampa.

See you there, and hope this last year has been a great one!

President Dave Pfaff

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(724) 378-7025

Flight Attendant Judy Schmidt
Colbath

schonewalds64@aol.com

Hi,

Everything is in place for a good time at our reunion. I am looking forward to seeing you, and to all who can't make it, you will surely be missed.

This is my last year as 1st Vice President for the Soaring Eagles, It was a good long run & now it's time for new people to get on the Board.

I thank you all for your support, God Bless!

Judy

**SECOND VICE
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Captain Steve Flom

stevav8or@aol.com

Dear Members,

Your officers have been very busy getting ready for the reunion. For my part, I am putting together another trivia contest. We will have it on Friday during the meet and greet. So study up on your airline history. I am hoping to see everyone there and I know some people have just not gotten around to making a

commitment to attend. Time is short and it's time now to jump in with both feet and get those hotel reservations and fees to Andy.

Steve Flom

2nd Vice President

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

(619) 417-7274

Flight Attendant Judi Todd

judiwtodd@gmail.com

Hi everyone. Time does fly (pardon the pun). This will be my last post for the Aerie as the Editor. My term as Secretary of the Soaring Eagles is now ending. I have so enjoyed the past 5 or so years. I'll still see you in the Hospitality Suite at this year's convention. I'm really looking forward to it. We are a great group.

Thanks for sharing your stories with us.

Judi

WEBMASTER'S MESSAGE

(828) 478-1133

Captain Paul Sturpe

sturpe@gmail.com

From your Webmaster

There is not a lot new on the website. I don't like to keep posting the news about pilots and flight attendants passing away, but that seems to be most of what I have been doing lately. Speaking of this subject, I have not received very much information about flight attendant deaths. I am glad to add them to our database [Soaring Eagles Pathfinders](#) but please let me know when one has served his or her last flight West.

There are officer positions open for election. Let President Pfaff know if you are willing to fill any of the board's positions. Some of those positions do not involve a lot of your time.

Also, remember to check our website frequently. Here is the link.

[The Soaring Eagles of USAir](#)

If you want to contact any board member, their contact information is in the Aerie. Current and past Aeries are prominently displayed on the website.

Once again, let me know if there is anything new that you would like to see on our website. Also let me know if you see any errors.

So long until next quarter.

Paul Sturpe, Webmaster

webmaster@usairsoaringeagles.org

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

(239) 693-9285

Captain Andy Skiba

aeskiba@cs.com

Less than two months to go and we are falling short on our attendee list in order to not trigger penalties for not meeting our minimum passenger counts on the cruise and Hotel events.

I know Dave Pffaf and Joe Kernan have been beating the airwaves and emails on this subject so I'll touch on another aspect of our annual conference and reunion.

I was a late comer to the Soaring Eagles and signed up just in time to miss two reunions due to the COVID cancellations. (What a Bummer). When I finally got to attend my first Soaring Eagles Reunion I realized how much fun it was but more importantly, how much I missed sharing stories about our years flying the line and the friendships we developed over those years.

For many of us, those flying years made us aware of how small in numbers our profession is compared to almost any other profession in our country and in fact the world.

Doctors, Lawyers, School teachers, Engineers, etc. far outnumber pilots and flight attendants as a working group.

When you attend your reunion and start telling stories about some of our experiences, those stories are almost always about the people we worked with or the people who were our passengers. During the retelling we have not seemed to age at all from the time those stories took place.

We all were privileged to fly with some of the most interesting people and witness some of the unique sights in the skies that most people will never see in their lifetime.

When my parents would stop at the small local airport to watch the little airplanes take off and land on Sunday afternoon I never dreamed that someday I would become a member of that brotherhood of aviators.

Come to our Reunion in Tampa and light that spark again.

See you in October

Andy Skiba

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(276) 632-9941

Captain Joe Kernan

Joekernandc9@yahoo.com

Past Presidents Message

You are probably reading this message after Oct. 3, 2025, which means that you have missed the opportunity to get the discounted room rate for the Soaring Eagles Convention/Reunion which convenes in less than three weeks in Tampa FL.

In the past some people, for whatever reason, did not make their hotel reservations in a timely manner. In those limited instances, we were able to work through our partners at The Marriott Tampa Westshore to secure the discounted rate for the members affected. It must be stated that this is a courtesy, and is based on availability of rooms on the nights in question, and no change in the published room rate. **This is a courtesy and not a commitment.** This must be done through the hotel and not Marriott Reservations. President Pfaff will need to coordinate with the hotel should this become necessary.

You can take care of your Convention registration with Treasurer Andy Skiba up to within a week of the start of the Convention Oct. 24, 2025, as we need an

accurate number for the hotel. As for signing up for the cruise one or two days in advance will be sufficient.

Your President Dave Pfaff, and the other board members are working very hard to make sure that you have a pleasant experience at this year's Convention/Reunion. Now all you have to do is show up, have a good time, and all of the work will have been worth it.

See you in Tampa,

Joe