

# Aerie News

**The Eagles Aerie News of the Second Quarter 2026**

**USAir Soaring Eagles**

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Soaring Eagles Write

### **Board of Directors**

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| President          | Dave Pfaff  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> VP | John Nagy   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP | Steve Flom  |
| Treasurer          | Eric Litt   |
| Webmaster          | Paul Sturpe |
| Secretary          | Patti Nagy  |
| Past President     | Joe Kernan  |

Advisors to the Board – Butch Schofield, Ron Natalie

Dear Fellow Soaring Eagles, please share your latest news, photos, and memorable moments with Secretary Patti Nagy at [pattinagy65@gmail.com](mailto:pattinagy65@gmail.com) so we can include them in upcoming Aerie editions. Your stories help keep our community strong, connected, and soaring together.

## **NEWS FROM MEMBERS**

**From Larry Channing:** To all. Alice and I are still spending our summers and falls in Maine and winters and springs in Central Florida. All is well with us and our family. Alice is still flying pretty much weekly trips to Europe with American and I'm taking her to and from the airport and helping with her monthly bidding. She still loves her job, especially when she can fly trips with her friends.

**From Joseph Kernan:** Greetings from Martinsville, VA. For those who don't know, Martinsville is about 40 miles north of Greensboro, N.C., and 30 miles south of Roanoke, VA. So now that you know where we are, here's what's going on with us.

Donna is dealing with some cardiac issues and is considered to be a heart failure patient. Although it is a serious condition, it is not as critical as it sounds. She is not able to handle trips very far from home. So when I do travel, one of our daughters comes to stay with her. Donna's health was the chief reason that I stepped away from the Soaring Eagles Presidency. I think Dave Pfaff is doing a good job, and I will continue to help him and the board in any way I can.

I still cut my own 3-plus acres of grass, and walk the dog a couple of times a day. Our family continues to grow. We have sixteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. We did have some sad news back in March when our great-grandson Rilee Knable was killed in a head-on crash in Palmyra, PA, when a driver under the influence of methamphetamine crossed into Rilee's lane of travel, killing both drivers instantly.

Unfortunately, I spend more time on the computer sending out more obituaries than I would like. I still enjoy sending out the Monday Morning Stories and the Thursday Throwback photos/stories. I can't send stories I don't have; please submit something.

I've attended three pilot funerals since the first of the year. Captain Al Hiney in January, Captain Leon Young in March, and Captain Rich Wareing. In each case, I wore my uniform as a way to pay respect to the deceased, whom I knew as a pilot and a fellow member of the airline piloting brotherhood, and more specifically, the Allegheny/USAir family. I was able to deliver some remarks about my relationship with my brother pilots who had Flown West.

A year or so ago, I was scheduled to have my left knee replaced, but called it off at the last minute, since the knee was feeling much better, and the situation at home was not ideal for rehabbing the new joint. Although I'm still pretty mobile, the left knee is crying. "Fix me, fix me." I'm going to see the orthopedic doc at the end of July for an evaluation. I think I'll ask him, "What's a nice guy like you hanging around a joint like this?"

If you didn't submit comments for this issue of The Aerie, consider submitting something for the next issue, which will publish at the end of September. Patti Nagy stepped up and accepted the Secretary/Editor position; the least we can do is to submit something to fill out the comments section and keep everyone up to date.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

410-991-6070

Captain Dave Pfaff

[pflyer34@gmail.com](mailto:pflyer34@gmail.com)

Summer has arrived and it's getting warmer. Spring cleaning is over and it's time to kick back and relax.

We have approximately 800 members, yet very few participate in this great group of flight attendants and pilots. Our past president asked if he could continue to post the Monday morning stories and Thursday's latest news. He is a wealth of knowledge, and everyone loves his input. He's asked for new stories to print, and we'd love to hear from you. Every year at the convention, the participants gather to renew acquaintances and their life, as well as the stories of their career. One story leads to another, and soon the memories start rolling in.

We don't know how many members are reading these stories that Joe publishes, but I'd like to think there are far more than the 80, or so that come to the convention in Tampa.

Of the 800 or so members, about 60% pay dues. That dues money helps pay for administrative costs, along with much of the convention costs, including pizza, beer, mixed drinks (open bar for three days), snacks and our meeting room. Please pay your dues if you haven't already.

Speaking of the convention, in recent years we went on a dinner cruise on Saturday night out of Tampa Bay. The board decided it was time for a change as it ate up much of the day for only an hour and a half cruise. We will now have an international buffet dinner at the hotel featuring food from around the world. That way members can "do their own thing" in the Tampa area during the day. The hotel has limited transportation, but is willing to take people to local areas. On Sunday we still have the dinner banquet with a dj and this year a renowned comedian. It should be a blast, as it has in the past.

This year's convention is October 23, 24, 25. Please mark that on your calendar and visit the [USAirsoaringeagles](http://USAirsoaringeagles.com) website for details and hotel reservations.

"Uncle" Ed Colodny just celebrated his 100th birthday, and members raised \$3,000 for his favorite charities. He was delighted that we thought of him on this momentous occasion. Kudos to all that donated. It shows the bond and unity we all share working for him and the company.

We would be delighted to see you at the convention so we can catch up on your experiences and your life in retirement. We hope to see you there.

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

(813) 892-4725

Captain John Nagy

[John.n1944@gmail.com](mailto:John.n1944@gmail.com)

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and safe Spring. After a few cocktails, I have a very brief flashback of the cool Pittsburgh weather. South Florida has about one month of temperate conditions.

Your Soaring Eagles Officers have been working diligently to prepare for the 49th Annual Reunion. We hope that you will consider attending and promoting the meeting to former coworkers who may not have attended in the past. The Tampa Westshore Hotel is conveniently located near the TPA Airport, and provides courtesy transportation.

Patti and I are looking forward to visiting with you all. Have a safe Summer, and we'll see you in October.

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Captain Steve Flom

[stevav8or@aol.com](mailto:stevav8or@aol.com)

Dear Members, Karen and I just returned from a week ride in Utah with the Harley. We had 10 bikes and 2 cars on the adventure. My point is not to brag but it emphasizes how much fun it is to get together with friends. It would be great if we could set records this year with the attendance at the convention. People who have never made it before should break down that barrier, no matter what it is, and come! I look forward to seeing you.

**SECRETARY'S MESSAGE**

(813) 892-4757

Patti Nagy

[pattinagy65@gmail.com](mailto:pattinagy65@gmail.com)

Wow! Where has the time gone! Here it is mid-June, and it is time for another publication of the Airie. Hope all is well with everyone. John and I are currently surviving the Florida heat and humidity. Can't wait to see everyone at the next convention in October!

## WEBMASTER'S MESSAGE

(828) 478-1133

Captain Paul Sturpe

[sturpe@gmail.com](mailto:sturpe@gmail.com)

Soaring Eagles maintains a database of all current members. When someone pays their dues, our Treasurer updates that information in the database. Other updates are done by me. For example, I remove any member who has flown West and if they have a living spouse, such spouse is transferred to Lifetime status.

I remove members who haven't paid dues for the last three years (unless their status exempts them from paying dues.) That is a provision in our Constitution and By-Laws. Once dropped from the database, one must re-apply to join.

The database is made available to all officers. When we used to publish the Aerie as a paper document, the listing of members, their address and phone numbers were included. Since publishing the Aerie online, the board has decided to withhold that information to minimize the possibility of misuse.

I'm sure there is a lot of data that needs updated. If you have moved, changed a telephone number, or email in the last 3 or 4 years, your data may need to be updated. If you want to know if your information is current, just send me an email and I will be glad to copy you in on what the database has for you. Then you can tell me of any updates.

Remember to check our website frequently. Here is the link.

[The Soaring Eagles of USAir](#)

Contacting a board member is easy if you just look up their contact information. From the website click on the latest Aerie. Then scroll through the messages from your officers. Telephone numbers and emails are included in the header for each officer.

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](mailto:webmaster@usairsoaringeagles.org)

## **TREASURER'S MESSAGE**

Captain Eric Litt

[ERLitt@msn.com](mailto:ERLitt@msn.com)

## **PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

(276) 632-9941

Captain Joe Kernan

[Joekernandc9@yahoo.com](mailto:Joekernandc9@yahoo.com)

When I agreed to Dave Pfaff's request that I remain on as the communications person for the Soaring Eagles, I was happy to do so, as I recognize the value of communication within an organization. Unfortunately, many of those communications involve obituaries and other instances when a member is "Down for Maintenance".

Since November 2024, I have posted 14 obituaries, of which 3 were for Flight Attendants, and the rest were for Pilots. Quite a few of the obituaries were for friends that I knew well and others that I knew through the Airline or Soaring Eagles Family. It has caused me to consider my own mortality and to focus on just how fragile our lives can be.

You will soon begin to receive reminders about attending the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention/Reunion of The USAir Soaring Eagles. Given what I wrote above, I would suggest attending the upcoming Convention/Reunion, where you will have the opportunity to reconnect with friends and acquaintances that you may not have been in contact with for a while. The ability to interact with someone and share in the common bond of friendship is far better than sending flowers after they have Flown West.

Registration for the Convention/Reunion is restricted to dues-paying members. If you have not yet paid your dues for 2026, you can remedy that situation by sending your payment as described below.

Soaring Eagles Treasurer  
Captain Eric Litt  
11702 Lariat Ln  
Oakton, VA 22124-2323

If you pay via PayPal, send it to [SoaringEaglesTreas@gmail.com](mailto:SoaringEaglesTreas@gmail.com)

Dues are: \$40.00 If you were 79 or younger on January 1, 2026

\$25.00 if you were 80 or older on January 1, 2026

Exempt if you were 80 or older on January 1, 2017; or if you are an honorary member; however, exempt and honorary members may continue to pay dues if they desire.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Tampa on October 23, 24, and 25, 2026.