



Season's greetings,
NGPA members!
Welcome to the
December issue of your
NGPA Navegaytor.
This holiday season,
spread love and good
cheer – and always
travel safely!

David Pettet,
Executive Director
NGPA

Warm and happy HOLIDAYS!



IN THIS ISSUE

BUSINESS

**MSP BOARD
MEETING RECAP**

GET READY

**NGPA WINTER
WARM UP**

HIGH SOCIETY

**MEMBER
PROFILES**

REMEMBERING STEVEN

**FOUNDER'S
AWARD**

NGPA UPDATE

**EDUCATION
FUND**



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Holidays, NGPA Members!

I hope those of you who celebrated Thanksgiving this year enjoyed the food and company. Those of you who were stuck on the junior totem pole flying, thank you for flying people safely to their destinations to celebrate with their family.

As we prepare for Winter Warm up and a record-breaking event, we are continuing to sign airlines every week to join our industry expo. Notice we keep saying "Industry" expo? It doesn't mean "airline pilot" expo. If you are interested in a job with an airline in any capacity, it might be worth your while to bring your polished résumé for that airline in attendance to pass along. This is what networking is all about!

We are very excited to offer the Wings accredited FAA presentation by Dr. Paul Foster. Hey GA pilots! This is for you! Come find out how to pass your next ramp check by the FAA! We will be offering Sunday light snacks and refreshments.

You'll be receiving the "unwrapped" Winter edition of 2014 NGPA News. Ahmet Ismailoglu, our creative director, Rosemary Oldendorf, and myself have been working hard to ensure an ontime arrival of the magazine for you. Again, if you wish to not receive the magazine any longer, please update your member profile on the website. This magazine is particularly special as it pays

honor and tribute to our fallen and deeply missed Steven Moore.

As I write this last Navegaytor to wrap up 2014, I'm excited to be starting a new year with new visions and a new look. Join us in Palm Springs while we reveal some fantastic new changes coming our way while we celebrate our 25 years.

This is YOUR organization and I am here to help lead and carry out the visions we have. Please reach out to me at any time so I can better serve you.

Fly safely and enjoy your holiday season, my NGPA family!



BUSINESS UPDATES

MSP Board Meeting Recap

Your board went ahead with our already scheduled 2014 Annual Board Meeting, which took place in MSP at the Northwest Airlines History Centre on Saturday, November 8. Of course, this was the day before Steven Moore's Memorial, and we all then traveled from MSP to Chicago at the conclusion of our meeting. We decided to stick with our original plan and have the meeting to pay tribute to Steven, as we felt he would have wanted us to continue doing the good work he was so passionate about. From approving our 2015 operating

budget to tackling more than one heavily-debated topics, we all came away from the meeting understanding and respecting one another and closing with Steven's famed "I Love You's" between board members.

At the conclusion of my first year serving as your board chair, I could not be more proud of each of those I have had and will continue to have the privilege to work with while serving NGPA. I have never met a more diverse and mutually-respectful group comprised entirely of volunteers – each proving to have a servant's heart that allows us

all to work collectively in the interest of NGPA, including it's members, sponsors, and affiliates.

I have said this in the past and I feel it's appropriate to state it once again because it has never been more visible: "The power of all of us is much greater than the sum of the individual parts," or said another way, "I am because we are." For one to succeed, all must succeed. I can tell you with the utmost of confidence that we are well-poised for an amazing 25th year anniversary as we celebrate the organization's 1990 roots beginning in Ptown.

- Scott Shatzer, NGPA Board Chair



IN MOURNING

Steven Moore's Service

For those of you who were unable to join, you were definitely in spirit while we gathered in Chicago on November 9th to honor Steven Moore. Nate Samek and all of Steven's family were extremely grateful for the love and support the NGPA showed for them. United Airlines made history and unveiled their partnership with United, and made their first advertisement in dedication to Steven. Some things we learned about Steven were that he not only had a specific passion and desire for NGPA, but many other things. The evening ended with a beautiful lantern launch at lake Michigan where we were able to gather and enjoy fellowship and honor Steven. A foundation has been set up in Steven Moore's Memory. Please visit Steven Moore's memorial page at <http://mclaurenagency.com/stevenmoore> for more information on how to donate.



PRIDE FESTIVALS

Palm Springs Pride Recap

Palm Springs Pride was a great success this year. All the events were held downtown on closed streets, including great music, dancing and fun! Members of NGPA and West Coast Gay Flying Clubs, the Golden Gate Flyers, and Unusual Attitudes had several events, including a meet and greet, barbeque, and pool party. Hope to see everyone at next year's celebrations!

EDUCATION

FSANA

Nick Michaels and I will be representing the NGPA in San Diego at the Flight School Association of North America (FSANA) on January 28th, 2015. The FSANA is a membership-based association which represents flight schools, firms that provide products or services to the flight training or aviation industry, and supporting partners. They have asked the NGPA to be a part of their panel and we are delighted to be a part of their day. They are going to be opening up a Q&A after the presentation. This is a great step toward NGPA being involved at the beginning stages of a student's aviation education. We are very excited to be a part of this!



LEADERSHIP

NGPA Founders Award

This September, it was my honor to present to first officer Steven Moore the founder's award, a crystal model of a futuristic airliner. The inscription reads: To Steven Moore - In recognition of your integrity, hard work and initiative in promoting the vision of the National Gay Pilots association. With Gratitude - Brian Samuelson and Tim Sullivan.

Steven worked tirelessly on everyone's behalf as executive director, bringing new and innovative ideas to our group, along with his

boundless energy. Last year he successfully persuaded several regional airlines to attend our Provincetown event to recruit qualified NGPA members, doggedly pursuing a major airline to attend as well. Steven did not like taking "No" for an answer.

On Aug 20, 2013, Steven's 35th birthday, he called me while hiking with Nate Samek, his fiancé. On that beautiful Colorado day, Steven had just received a call from American Airlines during which they agreed to come to Provincetown. He was on such a high; totally elated! He said that

he wanted me to be the first to hear this great news, and that it was his best birthday ever.

We are all so indebted to Steven for re-invigorating our association and putting it back on course. Thank you Steven Moore. Your hard work lives on and I'm so glad you touched our lives. We are all better off for having known you.

Peace,
Brian Samuelson
United Airlines Captain,
B757/767 and NGPA Co-Founder



EDUCATION

Happy Holidays from the NGPA Education Fund!

I hope this note finds you safe and warm this holiday season. If you're working/flying, I hope your passengers appreciate the extra effort and care you take to ensure they make it to their families safely and on time.

We have had another good year in the Education Fund. Our two big auctions, Palm Springs and Provincetown, brought in over \$16,000 thanks to your generous donation of both auction items and your bids. We hope to continue this trend in 2015. We awarded \$21,000 in aviation scholarships in 2014 and have set a figure of \$30,000 as our goal for 2015. (We will provide greater detail in our

annual report early in 2015.)

Now is the time to review your year- end charitable gifting for 2014 and consider a donation to the NGPA Education Fund. We were all shocked and deeply saddened by the tragic loss of our Executive Director, Steven Moore, to an aircraft accident on October 27. Our hearts and prayers have been with his family as we find a way to move forward. A special "in memory of Steven Moore" option is available on our website if you wish you choose to specify your donation.

The NGPA Education Fund is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are generally tax

deductible (please consult your tax advisor) and may be eligible for company matching donations.

Go to <http://ngpa.org> and make your donation online or send a check payable to NGPA Education Fund to P.O. Box 11313, Norfolk, VA 23517.

The opportunities the Education Fund provides through our scholarships are some of NGPA's proudest efforts. Please donate today!

Happy Holidays and here's to a terrific 2015!

Gregg Smith
NGPA Education Fund Chairman
Gregg.Smith@ngpa.org



PALM SPRINGS

NGPA Winter Warm Up

As the NGPA prepares to usher in our 25th anniversary year, the National Events Planning Committee couldn't be more excited about what's on the horizon. The Palm Springs Winter Warm-Up, which is our flagship West Coast event, will be held the weekend of Jan. 22-25, 2015. The Renaissance Palm Springs Resort will once again be our host hotel, where overwhelming member excitement has completely sold out the expanded room block contract. The good news is the convention space at the Renaissance is very large, so there is no concern of the event selling out!

To help meet overflow demand, the Hilton Palm Springs has offered a room block for NGPA members, and a \$155 nightly rate will be honored Jan. 22-26. The rate includes complimentary parking, guest room internet, shuttle service, fitness center access, local calls, and a 15-20 percent discount at Elements Spa. Call the Hilton directly

at 760.320.6868, and mention you are with the NGPA.

Join us on Thursday, January 22nd for a refreshing early cocktail reception at The Savage Gallery and Boutique, where NGPA members will be welcomed with a special aviation-themed setting. Due to popular demand, the official welcome party on Friday will once again be held at the world-famous Palm Springs Air Museum.

On Saturday morning we are pleased to offer an expanded hot breakfast buffet, and afterward the NGPA will welcome guest speaker Kathi Durst to the stage for our keynote address. Ms. Durst was a U.S. Air Force T-38 instructor pilot before she joined American Airlines where she served as an Airbus A300/Boeing 737 Check Airman and Boeing 737 Fleet Manager. In 2014, she was promoted to DFW Chief Pilot, which is American's largest pilot base. Highlights of her life achievements were also featured in the Summer 2014 NGPA News.

This is definitely a presentation you won't want to miss!

After breakfast, head to the Palm Springs Airport to bask in the California sun as we admire NGPA member aircraft participating in the Queen of the Fleet contest. Artisanal crafted crew meals will feature freshly made sandwiches and beverages served poolside at our host FBO, Atlantic Aviation.

The flagship event of the weekend is the dinner buffet and banquet, which includes fundraiser auctions to benefit the NGPA Education Fund. After dinner we will welcome an exclusive NGPA comedy engagement from the legendary Miss Coco Peru!



COCO PERU

Storyteller, monologist, and comedienne Coco Peru has been making audiences laugh for over 20 years with her one-woman shows, and is known for on-screen performances including her role in the 1999 independent film *Trick*, Richard Day's 2003 *Girls Will Be Girls*, as well as various television appearances such as *How I Met Your Mother*, *Arrested Development*, *Twins*, *Will & Grace*, and *New York Undercover*.

After Sunday brunch at Lulu California Bistro, head back to the Renaissance for the expanded NGPA Industry Expo. We're excited that both American Airlines and Alaska Airlines/ Horizon Air have committed to be on-site recruiting in addition to SkyWest, ExpressJet, and SeaPort Airlines, and we expect many more airlines to join.

Please note the Industry Expo will only be open to NGPA members and Winter Warm-Up registrants, in an effort to add value to members and industry participants alike. The Industry Expo will also be changed to a once-a-year event unique to Palm Springs.

Wrap-up a fun weekend with your fellow NGPA friends

Sunday night as we convene at The Tropicale Lounge for drinks, dinner, and goodbyes.

For a complete list of activities and events and to register online, go to the NGPA 2015 Palm Springs Winter Warm-Up page at <http://www.NGPA.org>. See you on the West Coast!



✈ THE NGPA PSP INDUSTRY EXPO

Sunday, January 25, 2015 | 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 🏆 The Renaissance Palm Springs Resort

AVAILABLE DURING REGISTRATION:

2015 Winter Warm-Up Tees



ONLY \$15!

2015 NGPA Winter Warm-Up Tee (available in small, medium, large, and extra-large): These 100% cotton pre-shrunk blue Gildan crew-neck tees are printed with the 2015 NGPA Winter Warm-Up logo in the upper left-hand corner. Handmade in Vermont at NGPA member Nick Candelier's family apparel shop, the tees will be sold during online registration only – there will be no sales in Palm Springs, no exchanges, and no refunds. T-shirt sales will be accepted through Monday, January 12 only.

Military Appreciation

Sometimes allowing you to board an airplane first, or the words, "thank you" isn't enough. The NGPA would like to recognize our active military men and women a little differently for those in attendance this year in Palm Springs at our Winter Warm Up. Please join the NGPA as our special guest as we recognize your service for our freedoms here in the United States. It's because of your heroism that we have the freedoms to have an organization like NGPA even exist when so many countries are far behind.



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Dan Reynolds

Age: 30

Relationship status: Single and looking for a co pilot who loves to travel the world!

Employment: Inflight at Alaska Airlines

Ratings: Long-term Student Pilot

Flight time: About 40 hours

What is it about NGPA that you love? I love the friends, support and gatherings that NGPA offers us all.

NGPA Member since: I've been an NGPA member since January 2006, and I learned about NGPA from my former husband-turned-best-friend, Steven Reynolds.

Flight history: I've always had a love for aviation from a very young age. I love flying, traveling, and exploring around the world. I've been in the airline industry for over 10 years (everything from reservations and ground ops to training and inflight), and although there are parts that have changed for the worse, it's still a thrill to hop on a plane and go somewhere for the heck of it.

Favorite airplanes: I love the 757/767, 777, 787, A380 and any McDonnell Douglas airplane for commercial aircraft, and for military aircraft, I've always loved the C-17.

Best flight experience: I've had many amazing flight experiences, but probably one of my best was at my first NGPA event on Jim Gabbert's 727 doing a Grand Canyon tour when I got to meet and chat with Al Haynes... and have him sit in my lap.

Out on the job? I don't flaunt my sexuality to others at work or generally even in my personal life, but I don't hide my views and if someone asks I answer honestly.

Best LGBT experience in aviation: Getting to fly with other NGPA friends as well as the jetway and airport terminal reunions that happen from time to time. It's always great to see a familiar face.



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Dave Gosnell

Age: 43

Relationship status: Married for 13 years.
John is a F/A for Southwest Airlines

Employment: Dispatch trainer (11 years)
with Southwest Airlines (20 years)

Ratings: Commercial & Instrument Airplane
SEL and Flight Dispatchers Rating

Flight time: About 350 hours

What is it about NGPA that you love? The camaraderie amongst members and developing lifelong friendships.

NGPA Member since: I joined in Aug 2009 when John and I were invited to PVC with Gabe Him and Steve Redding.

Flight history: I always liked airplanes, even as a kid. We would take trips to the airport just to watch them takeoff and land. I always knew I wanted to be a pilot or work with airplanes for a career. My dream job was with Southwest Airlines and it was my first job out of college. Then I transferred to DAL to become a Flight Dispatcher.

Favorite airplanes: Piper Arrow and Mooney 201J

Best flight experience: My first solo in N61127 in the pattern at KLAF

Worst flight experience: Packed into a C-150 during spin training for my Commercial rating at Purdue with a 6'6" 240 lb instructor. I was nauseated for days afterward.

Out on the job? Yes. I was the first one to be out in our office.

Best LGBT experience in aviation: Joining NGPA and attending our first event in P-Town. It was a fantastic experience meeting so many different people with a love for aviation.



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Tom Morin

Age: 50

Relationship status: Single

Employment: Retired FAA (5/31/2014). Air Traffic Controller 28 years at Boston Center (Nashua, NH)

Ratings: Private pilot

What is it about NGPA that you love? I enjoy meeting up with like-minded aviators and building connections. The people are simply fantastic. I have made friends for a lifetime. That alone has made my life better.

NGPA Member since: September, 2012

Best ATC experience: I was working alone about 0400 on Sunday morning after 9-11. Given that my airspace is the eastern third of Boston Center, I shared a huge boundary with Canada. This particular morning, JFK was opening back up at 0500 since being closed the previous Tuesday on 9-11. All of the equipment that had been stranded at the various Canadian Maritime airports (CYHZ, CYYT, CYQX to name a few) was finally recovering to the US. I will never forget the sound of those pilot's voices as they checked on frequency with a US controller. They were finally home. There was a deep feeling of human connection that morning that will resonate with me forever.

Best LGBT experience in aviation: I am pleased that my labor union always embraces diversity. Leadership at my union knows I am gay and it simply does not matter. I am respected for my compassion and capabilities. THAT has been my experience. And is the way it should be everywhere.

Life in retirement: My first move after retirement was to head to Europe and join my friends and fellow NGPAers in Greece portion. I had a very relaxing summer at my lake home in Meredith, NH and took up hiking in the White Mountain National Forest. I can reach countless day hikes by car within an hour. I'm hooked and will be pursuing an initial goal of conquering all 48 4,000-foot+ peaks in NH. So far I have climbed 12. Next spring/summer/fall my goal is 20 more. If you want to do some hiking next year, let me know. (You must be conditioned to join. The hikes can be grueling.) In the meantime, I am pleased to join the NGPA Board. The NGPA is a very special group of people and I could not be happier to belong.

the ngpa winter warm-up | january 22-25, 2015

Palm Springs



UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Dates!

The NGPA will be at the following events in the coming months. Be sure to mark your calendars and come join us!

NGPA WINTER WARM UP

PALM SPRINGS, CA

JANUARY 22-25, 2015

WOMEN IN AVIATION CONFERENCE

DALLAS, TX

MARCH 5-7, 2015

SPRING FLING

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

APRIL 24-26, 2015

NGPA CAPE COD CLASSIC

PROVINCETOWN, MA

SEPTEMBER 18 - 20, 2015



TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

You or your airplane could be featured in the next issue of NGPA News!

Did you see the last member profile in the NGPA News Magazine? A lot of our members live amazing lives and we're certain you do, as well! A lot of our members have really cool airplanes, too! Submit your profile or airplane by clicking the links below! Your submission is one part that is making the NGPA better!

To become a featured member:

<http://surveymonkey.com/s/NGPAMemberProfile>

To have your aircraft featured:

<http://surveymonkey.com/s/NGPAAircraftProfile>



GET SOCIAL

Local Groups

Canada Aviation Pride Group

Attn Vancouver Pilots: If you're in the area, Mel Rushton and Tom Polgreen have agreed to host a pilot party at their beautiful condo on 10/18 from 7:30 - 11:00pm. There will be snacks provided, but please bring your own drinks. RSVP with Peter: petermlitherland@gmail.com

Golden Gate Flyers, San Francisco area

GGF will be holding its Annual Hangar Party and BBQ on Saturday October 4 at the Oakland Aviation Museum from 12-3pm. This event coincides with the weekend of Castro Street Fair, which is Sunday in the Castro. The BBQ is a hosted event, free for all GGF members. Guests and other NGPA members are welcome to attend for a nominal charge. Please contact Mike Fillman for details at mike.fillman@gmail.com.

Windy City Flyers, Chicago NGPA Group

The Windy City Flyers are often meeting up for drinks, potluck dinners, and out making trouble. If you are in Chicago, you can get more information on this group's events in two ways. You can join their group

on Facebook. facebook.com/groups/chicagongpa. You can also email John Burdick at john.burdick@me.com.

Cascade Flyers Seattle Area

The Cascade Flyers are based in Seattle and they are a very active group. You can find them on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/cascadeflyers. You can also email Russ Borgnin for information on events at russborgnin@gmail.com.



Mile High Flyers, Denver Area

Hey Denver aviators!!! Find us on Facebook for the local members in the Denver area. Search us out at "Mile High Flyers." Mile High Flyers is a local group based in Denver. Our purpose is to promote networking and social events within the GLBT aviation community including our supporters and

other aviation enthusiasts. We meet monthly, do fly-ins and other fun social events. For information or to join the group, find us on Facebook.

Unusual Attitudes, Southern California Area

Unusual Attitudes is dedicated to providing an enjoyable, social atmosphere for all gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of the aviation community. Our members include pilots (private, commercial, student and ATP), controllers, A&P mechanics, flight attendants and other aviation enthusiasts. We hold social gatherings and fly-ins each month throughout Southern California and the Southwest. Contact David Ford at dbford92054@yahoo.com.

Liberty Fliers, Philadelphia Area

Philadelphia's only local gay pilot group is for any pilot or aviation enthusiast in the Philadelphia region. Liberty Fliers will start out with monthly social meetings at some of Philly's local hot spots. We are planning to have fly-ins, dinners, and participate in local pride events. Join or "like" us on both our Facebook group and page. For more information, contact Mark Schmid at mark.schmid@ngpa.org or 609-221-6623.

Twin City Flyers, Minneapolis Area

The Twin City Flyers is a group representing the Minneapolis-St. Paul gay aviation community within the National Gay Pilots Association. We are working to create a network of people in the area for social functions as well as career networking. We are going to be hosting regular events such as fly-ins, dinners, happy-hours, etc. for meeting and interacting with people in the area. Our Facebook page is accessible at: facebook.com/groups/TwinCityFlyers. Feel free to send them a message!



Mach1 Flyers, Southern Florida Area

Mach 1 Flyers is a social and networking group for gay and lesbian pilots and aviation professionals in the South Florida area. NGPA membership is encouraged, but not required. Mach 1 Flyers meets monthly for a social. They also organize fly-ins around the south Florida area! Check them out! Email Cale Choi at cale.choi@me.com or look them up on Facebook at Mach1Flyers.

Rainbow Flyers, Dallas/Fort Worth Area

The Rainbow Flyers is a group of GLBT aviators, their supporters and aviation enthusiasts in and around the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. The Rainbow Flyers meets monthly for social gatherings and fly-ins. Contact Mel Rushton at Mel@melandtom.net for more information or to join the group. You can also find us on Facebook by searching for Rainbow Flyers.

Heartland Flyers, Kansas City Area

Heartland Flyers is a new group organized primarily around the greater metropolitan Kansas City area for the purpose of fostering social interaction and regular meet-ups. We welcome all gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of the aviation community, including both commercial and general aviation pilots and people from all aspects of the industry, as well as aviation enthusiasts. The group meets monthly for brunches, dinners, special events and fly-ins. For more information about the group and our activities, contact Ron Davis at flynba@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/heartlandflyers.

CaCtuS FLYErS Phoenix Area

The Cactus Flyers have their monthly dinner near the first of every month. If you are in the Phoenix area, contact them! E-mail cactusflyers@aol.com or call (602) 540-6241.



Out on the Runway, Washington DC Area

Out on the Runway has an activity scheduled every month in the mid-Atlantic region, we have several new members and are looking for new ideas for get-togethers! If you are in the greater Washington DC Metro area and you are interested in meeting LGBT pilots, contact the group's coordinator, Russ at Red911forme@gmail.com. You can also find their group on Facebook! [http://facebook.com/groups/OutOnTheRunway](https://facebook.com/groups/OutOnTheRunway)



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Robert Houghton, M.D.

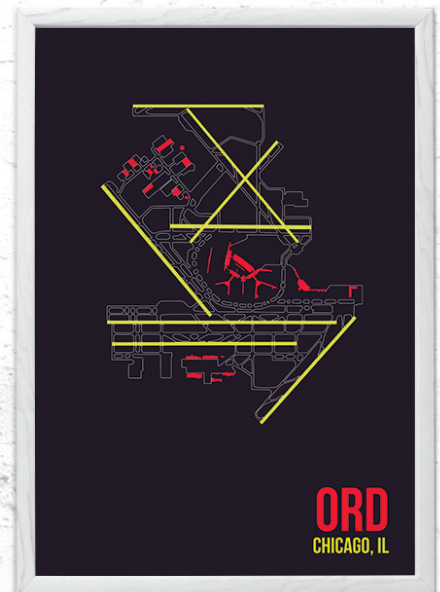
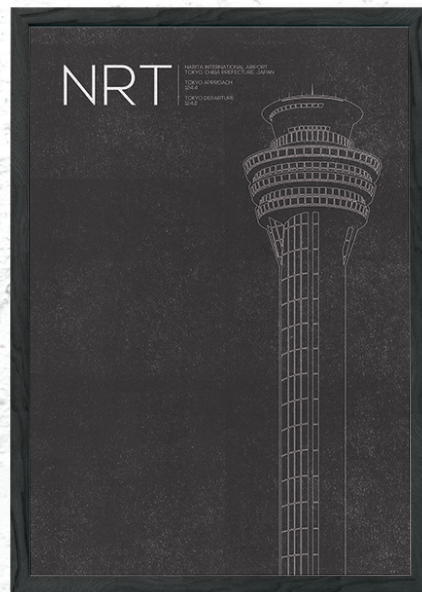
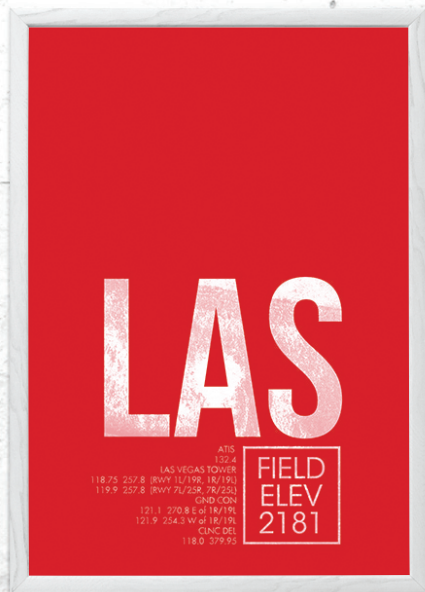
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