

JULY 2015 NGPA.ORG

# VAVEGAYTOR

# Celebrating INDEPENDENCE

AND MAJOR SUCCESSES FOR LGBT AND THE NGPA!

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# CELEBRATING FREEDOM!

Happy birthday to the United States of America this month, and also to the NGPA, as we continue to remember and celebrate our 25 years of existence. Reflecting back on the U.S. history of how far aviation and equal rights to the LGBT community have come, I'm so thankful I've lived to see so many of these milestones. I recall just after high school, many people within the LGBT community stated we would never see equal marriage laws passed, or open military service men and women in our lifetime. When I started flight training, I still needed to do NDB approaches to complete my check ride. Glass cockpits didn't exist in flight training. Today, flight schools have all-glass cockpit fleets, and commercial airliners can fly from Dallas non-stop to Sydney, recording the longest non-stop flight on the world's largest passenger aircraft. In my very short life of 28 years, I've seen the don't ask don't tell policy implemented and repealed. I've stood in the capital in St. Paul, MN and Honolulu, HI, when both states passed equal marriage laws. I've now seen the NGPA grow nearly 150% in just 12-18 months. We have gone from one airline

recruiting at an event to 22 airlines and growing for 2016. We signed our first University flight school sponsorship in 2015 and we're already renewing it for 2016. We have also recorded our largest corporate sponsorship support to date.

There are so many LGBT aviation pilots, mechanics, flight attendants, customer service reps, etc., looking for a place to call home. As most of us call the U.S.A home, and even more, the NGPA, reach out a hand, and invite them to join the NGPA today.

Our membership committee kicked off in June with our membership drive. You have an opportunity to win some great prizes for your hard work towards building the NGPA.

Our Cape Cod Classic is right around the corner, so be sure to watch for updates on the website, FB, Twitter and emails. Registration is set to be open at the end of the month, so don't delay in registering once it's open. We have made some magnificent changes to our Provincetown event, some which allow a little more capacity due to our recent event sell outs. Space is limited for the event, so be sure to register as soon as possible. Also, don't forget to make your accommodations. Lodging tends to fill up fast too!

The 2016 NGPA Industry Expo is well underway and airlines are already confirming their place in Palm Springs. I'm pleased to announce NGPA member and First Officer Brian Gambino, as the Director of Industry Expo. My vision and leadership techniques are to create new ideas and strengthen old ones. Once a project or idea gets off the ground with momentum, I believe it is in the best interest of the organization that I find a suitable person to "PIC" that, so I may re focus on the next goal. Brian's experience ranges from airline

> HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THIS MONTH, AND ALSO TO THE NGPA,

customer service, to airline pilot, along with a passion to serve the NGPA and its members. His leadership and organization will ensure the integrity, professionalism and success of our Industry Expo. Look for emails and posts from Brian regarding the Expo as it approaches. He will be seeking volunteers for that day, so be sure to let him know if you can help! (brian. gambino@ngpa.org)

I hope you enjoy your Independence Day celebrations with your friends and family, or your layover crew. Watching the firework on the evening of Fourth of July from 38,000 feet is site worth not missing!

David Pettet NGPA Executive Director



A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 🙀

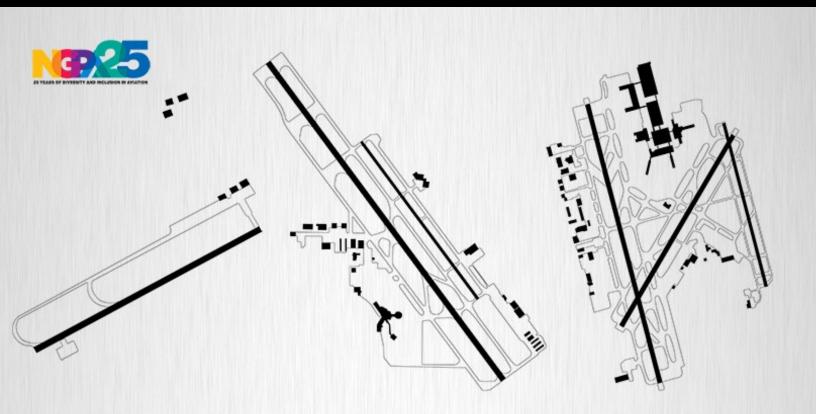
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NGPA









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## 2015 FLIGHT DECK

I would like to take this month, as we are halfway through 2015, to say thank you to our Flight Deck members at the NGPA. This special core group of people is the fuel behind the execution of our mission. Our Flight Deck members contribute a minimum of \$300 a year to the NGPA to help support our programs, events, advocacy and outreach, and much more. Our success today would not have been possible with out our Flight Deck members. As we go into the second half of a very strong year for us, please consider joining

CHIEF PILOT LEVEL (\$2400 DONATION)

TOM BISHOP TIM BRALY JIM GABBERT & TIM NOUSEN

BRIAN BROWN

TOM BUTTGENBACH & SEAN LEFFERS

CURTIS HAWKES & DAVID BARTLEY SCOTT SHATZER GREGG SMITH TOM WARD CHANDLER WONDERLY & MIKE FILLMAN

our group of Flight Deck members. Please

contact me, or anyone on the board

Members for being a part of our 25th

of directors on how to join today.

Thank you again Flight Deck

Anniversary history this year.

#### CAPTAIN LEVEL (\$1200 DONATION)

PATRICK KEYS BRYAN STEVENS BRIAN STRAUB KIT WARFIELD BROOKS WILKERSON

#### FIRST OFFICER LEVEL (\$600 DONATION)

TOM BRUMLICK MARC CHAMPION AND PATRICK POWELL DAVID CHINICK & ANDRES DIAZ CALEN CHRZAN SEAN COOPER & MIKE CHURCH BILL GRAY CHRIS HOSS FRANK KING CHAD R. MEDUNA STEVEN MOORE AND NATHAN SAMEK KYLE MORGAN TOM MORIN DARREN MURPHY & PAUL GAMEZ DAVID PETTET & BRANDON RICHARDS CHUCK PHELAN & STEVE MCINTYRE GREGG POPOVEC DAN REYNOLDS JASON SEIDER AND STEVEN SHANKS PHIL SMITH & RICK NYE JOHN SPANNAGEL KEVIN SPERLING & TYLER SCHEELER RAND SNELL MICHAEL STEWART KYLE SZARY JIM TAVENNER

#### FLIGHT ENGINEER LEVEL (\$300 DONATION)

CAPT. TOMMY BARRAZA & ROB MARIN RUSSEL BORGNIN JOHN BORMES ERIC BROWN JEFF BUCHMAN & KEN HEARN SEAN CRAWFORD & ROB QUIRK SCOTT DALE RON DAVIS MATTHEW DEUTSCH STEVE DUNN & NEIL PURCELL DANNY ESCOLA DALE FIALA DAVID FRENCH DOUG FROST TOM FROST AND JOHN MARCHILDON ROBERT FUCHS DAVE GOSNELL & JOHN KOTALIK PAUL HART BRANDON HOWARD RON JONES MIKE LINCOLN CRANE MCCUNE ROBERT MOYER ROBERT E NEIGHBOUR MIKE NICHOLS THOMAS W. NIKOLAI & BRIAN BUCKELY DAVE PENGELLY DAVID PETTET & BRANDON RICHARDS ROB POSTE HERBERT PUNZ SEAN O'DONNELL GARY OKUM STEVEN REYNOLDS JOSHUA RODRIGUEZ RICHARD SCHOBER DAY SURLES BRAD THUROW TYLER TENBRINK BRIAN VOOGD DAVID WILLIAMS MICHAEL WEYMER MICHELLE & LAUREL WILEY-YATES LUCAS, ZARLENGO

#### THANK YOU, NGPA MEMBERS

TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE 2015 FLIGHT DECK, GO TO NGPA.COM AND CLICK "DONATE."



# CALLING ALL LEADERS!

What does being a leader mean to you? Encouraging young aviators to succeed in their training? Running a safe flight with your crew? Doing the work? Giving intent to those you supervise to start thinking like leaders?

These are all great qualities of a leader, and everybody leads in their own way. The NGPA has many opportunities to grow as a leader, and bring your experience to a committee, a program, or even our board of directors.

The NGPA Board of Directors and the Education Fund Board, is seeking statements of interest (SOI) to join us in continuing to grow a stronger NGPA.

Please submit your SOI no later than October 15, 2015. You may find the form on our homepage of the website under "Latest News".



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PROVINCETOWN 508-487-5900

#### RAINBOW FLYERS DALLAS/FT. 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.

### CANADIAN AVIATION PRIDE

Calling all NGPAers to the "great white north" - Canada! Well, it's not that white up here any more. In fact, it gets sizzling HOT at the end of June - right in time for Pride Toronto!!! We are inviting YOU to kick off Pride at our Summer Social on Friday June 26th @ 8PM in Toronto. RSVP by emailing **1046@travelplus.** *ca.* Vist us online for more information at *canadianaviationpride.org* and "like" us on Facebook at *facebook. com/CanadianAviationPride* 

#### GOLDEN GATE FLYERS

#### SAN FRANCISCO AREA

San Francisco's Golden Gate Flyers club holds monthly dinner meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. The meeting venue alternates between The Sausage Factory Restaurant in the Castro on even numbered months and Don Ramon's Mexican



THE RAINBOW FLYERS, DALLAS/FT. WORTH

# LOCAL GROUPS

Restaurant in South-of-Market on the odd numbered months. Members and guests enjoy meeting for greetings and drinks at the bar around 7 p.m., then move to the private dining room at 7:30 p.m. for dinner and briefings on upcoming events. Guests and prospective members are always welcome. Find us on Facebook at *facebook.com/groups/GoldenGateFlyers* or email *wildblue@goldengateflyers. org* for more information.

#### 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: Join their group on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/ chicagongpa, or email John Burdick at john.burdick@me.com.

#### CASCADE FLYERS

SEATTLE AREA

 Cascade Flyers meets up for dinner the last Wednesday of the month.
Check out the Cascade Flyers Facebook page for the location, or ask to be on our groups private email list.
The Orcas Island Fly In is scheduled for the weekend of July 24th - 26th,
Contact *russborgnin@gmail.com*.

### MILE HIGH FLYERS

Hey Denver aviators!!! 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 and/ or email *Doug@TeamSecord.com*.

#### UNUSUAL ATTITUDES

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA** More info is available on the Unusual Attitudes website at *unusualattitudes.org*.

#### LIBERTY FLYERS

PHILADELPHIA AREA

Liberty Fliers is the Philadelphia area's only gay pilot group. We meet weekly for cocktail hours, dinner and events. Join us at the local watering hole in the Gayborhood, or out flying at a PHL area airport. For more information please contact Mark Schmid *mark. schmid@ngpa.org* or Matt Stevens *mastevens2@gmail.com* for more information. Also, please check out our Facebook group, "Liberty Fliers"

#### TWIN CITY FLYERS

MINNEAPOLIS - ST.PAUL AREA

The Twin City Fliers 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/TwinCityFliers*. Feel free to send us a message!

#### SHARE YOUR CLUB EVENTS! EMAIL US: DAVID.PETTET@NGPA.ORG

#### 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.

#### ATL STICK AND RUDDER ATLANTA AREA

The newly revitalized Stick and Rudder chapter meet for an evening of dinning and socializing against the beautiful backdrop of the PDK airport. Stick and Rudder's goal is to provide an environment for networking, reconnecting with old friends and forming new ones. For more information or to receive emails about upcoming events, email *stickandrudderngpa@gmail.com*.

#### 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 flyins. 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 meetups. We welcome all GLBT members of the aviation community, including commercial and general aviation pilots, people from all aspects of the industry, and aviation enthusiasts. The group meets monthly for brunches, dinners, special events and fly-ins. For more information, contact Ron Davis at *flynba@gmail.com* or visit our Facebook page at *facebook*. com/groups/heartlandflyers.

#### OUT ON THE RUNWAY

WASHINGTON DC AREA Out on the Runway has an activity scheduled every month in the region, we have new members and are looking for new ideas for get-togethers! If you are in the greater Washington DC area and interested in meeting LGBT pilots, contact Russ Prechtl at Red911forme@ gmail.com or find the group on Facebook at "OutOnTheRunway."



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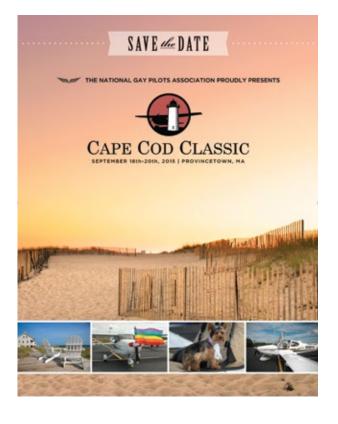
ORCAS ISLAND FLY IN SEATTLE, WA JULY 24 - 26, 2015

OBAP 2015 WASHINGTON DC AUGUST 12 - 14, 2015

NGPA CAPE COD CLASSIC 2015 PROVINCETOWN, MA SEPTEMBER 18 - 20, 2015

NGPA WINTER WARM-UP PALM SPRINGS, CA JANUARY 21 - 24, 2016

WOMEN IN AVIATION CONFERENCE NASHVILLE, TN MARCH 10 - 12, 2016





# EMAIL BETTY!

#### Send me your juiciest questions!

Now, I know the world hasn't suddenly turned into a gayfriendly utopia, I'm out there slinging metal across the sky right with y'all. Please, send Betty@ngpa.org your issues! If your colleagues are asking questions or making comments that leave you tongue-tied, fuming or frustrated, you know who to tell! Let's develop dialogues to use when you encounter the clueless, the ignorant, or the offensive!



## CELEBRATIONS

#### We love our amazing members! Give us something to brag about!

Did you get a new rating? New job? Engaged? We want to hear about it. Were you hired or asked to interview as a result of the Industry Expo in January? We want to hear about that too! Email *celebrations@ngpa.org* so we can celebrate with you!



## IN LOVE WITH A FOREIGNER?

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