

# NATIONAL AIRLINES BUCCANEERS

January 2017

## CENTRAL FLORIDA BUCCANEERS

**CFB LUNCHEON, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

Before I proceed I would like to note that our incoming Buccaneer's President, Captain Dick Walker, came to our luncheon all the way from Tallahassee, some 4 hours of driving, (that's each way) to be with us and give his ideas on where the Bucs go from here.

I want to personally thank him for going to that effort! It's no small gesture. Thank You Dick!!

I'm happy to report that our regular server, Marisa, had her baby girl and both mom and daughter are doing fine!

In attendance this time were, DAN PIERCE, to whom I owe an apology. It seems I neglected to list his attendance at our December gathering. I'm sorry about that Daniel!! JOHN BOWLING, BOB and HELEN MARTIN, SHERRY FASSETT-BRADLEY, DAVID BRADLEY, DON and DORIS MORGAN, STEVE and LINDA MILLS, JIM and HILDA O'REILLY, BILL GRISCOM (to whom I say a big "thank you" for setting us up with a room for our meetings for the entire year!), LARRY HELMS who needs to stop working so hard and return to flying airplanes and airports again, DICK WALKER, FRANK SAVINO, KAY STRAUSS, ERNIE ELLISON, JOHN BARRY, BILL WEST, RON CHATLOS, BILL STRELECKI, DAVE BLESSING, and LINDA and JOHN WENTWORTH.

Larry Helms and Jim O'Reilly added to their 2017 tax bill by winning the 50/50 riches.



Dick Walker came all the way from Tallahassee to address our group.

We will reconvene for another round of fun on February 8th. We really want to see you there again so, in the meantime, be well!



# GONE WEST

**Sad News Department: Captain Jimmie Brown** joined NAL in July 1945 and eventually retired from PAA. He was still in Coral Gables when he passed away on October 17, 2016 at the age of 93. For some reason I never shared a cockpit with Jimmie. I understand it was my loss.

On December 18, 2016 **F/A Doris Eggen Bissell** passed away in Jacksonville at the age of 89. Doris joined NAL in January 1949.

On December 29, 2016 we lost **Captain Dick Norman** at the age of 91. Dick came to NAL in December 1951. His home was in Tallahassee when he passed. Dick was active in the ALPA for many years working for the betterment of our careers. I also found him to be a gentlemen and a pleasure to share a cockpit with.

**Captain Bob Hawkins** died in an auto accident on January 12th of this year. Bob began his airline career with PAI before coming to NAL and later retired from PAA. He was a resident of Jacksonville when he passed at the age of 93.

## BUCCANEERS CLUB NEWS

Dear Group, We are indeed fortunate that Dick and Jane Walker have stepped up and volunteered to take the reins of the Buccaneer's Club and guide it forward. It is a time consuming endeavor and should not go unshared. Bob and Sharon Thrasher have indicated their desire to retire from the Secretary/Treasurer post at the change of officers in at the April convention. So, I am asking for someone to volunteer to take

over for them at that time. You will not be simply thrown to sink or swim, but will be worked with until you are up to speed. This will give Dick and Jane some administrative respite which is, in my opinion, only fair. Bob and Sharon have revamped the records and record keeping so you will only need to keep them current. The hard work has been done so mostly you will be plugging in information, making deposits, writing some checks, etc. Not difficult, but will require a certain commitment of time.

Folks, if the Walkers do not get support and help from us, the club will soon again face extinction. It's simple really, *no help, no future*. I understand you're busy, I get it! However, the people who are presently doing the work are busy as well. We did NOT take over this work because we didn't have enough to occupy our time. We did it because we believe in the **value** of the Buccaneers. We believe the result is worth the effort. What do you believe?

## BUCCANEERS CONVENTION 2017

The National Airlines Buccaneer Convention is coming up soon so mark your calendar for April 21-22-23. We will be heading back to Boca Raton at the Embassy Suites Hotel. For reservations, I have two numbers depending on when you call....If you want to call between 9 to 5 on weekdays, dial 561-989-3966 and it will ring on our sales manager's phone and she will book your room. Her name is Carolyn and she knows all about us. If you call on the weekend or after 5.00PM dial 561-994-8200 and use our group code NAT for our \$99.00 rate. If you have any problems reaching either number please call me at 770-328-6351. As usual we will be gathering in our Hospitality Room 724 all throughout the weekend plus a wonderful little 2 hour cruise down the coast of south Florida. The plan is to leave the hotel Sat morning at 0930AM for a short bus ride up to the boat which will be leaving at 1030AM for very nice cruise returning at 1230PM. This should put us back at the hotel around 1:00PM. On Sunday morning we will be having our member meeting at 1000AM right after breakfast in the Palm Theater room. This meeting usually last one hour so the rest of the day is yours to choose. Sunday night right after Happy Hour the Convention Banquet Dinner will begin at 7:30PM in the Hotel Ballroom (Barbados). The Hospitality Room hours will be given to you at check-in along with the other events planned for the weekend. As you know the Embassy Suites has some very fine features that keep us returning year after year. This will be the last event that John and I will be putting together for the group and we are hopeful

for a good turn out. The Hotel address is 661 NW 53rd St. Boca Raton 33487 and is just off I-95. If your coming from the south you would exit 48B and coming from the north exit 48 onto Yamato Rd . Turn right just over the railroad tracks onto NW 8th Ave. and just follow this around to the Hotel. Looking forward to seeing you all very soon...Stay well Bob Pierson--  
Convention Chairman

## CONVENTION REGISTRATION, BOCA RATON, APRIL 21,22,23 2017

Number attending\_\_\_\_

If attending the banquet ONLY, please check here\_\_\_\_

Names\_\_\_\_\_

Phone contact\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail contact\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate meal preference for EACH person:

Chicken\_\_\_\_\_Fish\_\_\_\_\_Beef\_\_\_\_\_

Please include a check for \$85 PER PERSON if you are attending the entire convention or \$45 PER PERSON if you are attending the banquet only. Checks should be made to National Buccaneers. Mail check and form to National Buccaneers, 15701 Willo Pines Lane, Montverde, FL 34756. PLEASE, don't wait until the last minute. That scramble exercise is not fun on this end!!

## BUCCANEER MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2017

Yep, it's that time of year again. Since it appears that the newsletter will continue beyond December 2017 under the guidance of Dick and Jane Walker, it is appropriate that we continue to replenish our treasury. Please send a check made out to National Airlines Buccaneers, and mail to 15701 Willo Pines Lane, Montverde, FL 34756. It's more work than you may think to keep track of all this so, PLEASE, do it earlier rather than later. Dues remain at \$18.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail\_\_\_\_\_

Position held at National\_\_\_\_\_

**A quick Thank You note:** I want to take a moment to thank the 48 responders who have already sent in their dues for 2017. I want you to know that I have noticed and that I appreciate your promptness! J.W.

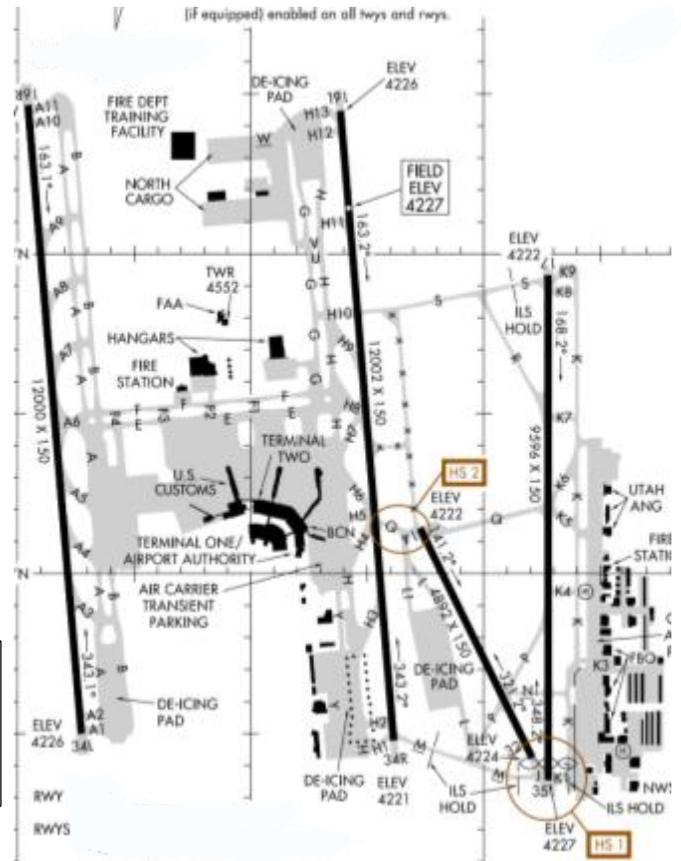
## MYSTERIES SOLVED

**Last Month's Mysteries:** DTW, Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport. Apparently many of you have either flown in there or are good researchers as I got 10 correct responses. It's not at all unusual that Bob Massey was first followed soon after by Curt Briggs, Dusty Rhodes, Vince Wynne, Bob Pierson, Hart Kelley, Gary Snodgrass, Stan Barfield, Jerome Kline, and our first lady to join the fun, Linda Spencer. Linda, we hope to see your name again soon and often!

As for the airplane, it is a Piper PA-14 Family Cruiser. Curt Briggs IDed it with lightening speed followed by Gary Snodgrass, Jerome Kline and Bob Spencer. Bob's wife happens to be Linda who came up with the correct airport ID. Welcome to both of you!

Last month I failed to acknowledge that Bob Pierson correctly IDed Anson Johnson and his P-51. Bob was living in a suburb of Cleveland at the time, the same one I was in. But since he was sooooo much older than myself, we did not know each other at the time. In fact, we didn't know about our mutual history until one day we shared a cockpit with Anson Johnson, enroute to San Francisco, and during the gab session it all came to light. Sorry Bob, it will most likely happen again!

For you Delta types, this should be easy.  
For the rest of you, maybe not.



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OK, last month's participation rate was kinda low so this month I'm going easy on you. What it be?