



# LIFELINE PILOTS

the shortest distance between home and hope

## VOLUNTEER PILOTS HELP OUR JOPLIN NEIGHBORS

LifeLine Pilots has a strong history of stepping up to the plate when the unexpected happens. When disasters strike, our mission coordinator starts tracking down those who are organizing efforts to help while volunteer pilots are calling offering their time and planes. Flying blood platelets after September 11, 2001, facilitating 90 missions in September 2005 to aide Hurricane Katrina victims and providing assistance to AGAPE with supply missions after the 2009 Haiti earthquake is evidence that LifeLine Pilots has been of service in times of extreme need. On May 22, 2011, when a mile wide tornado tore through the southern part of Joplin, Missouri, destroying over 8,000 homes and businesses, LifeLine Pilots began seeking out ways to be of assistance.

A Joplin resident created a FaceBook Page to help tornado victims connect with resources. What started out as a “we can help” response post by Shelly Livengood, LifeLine Pilots’ Development/Mission Coordinator, led to a series of relief missions. Through the FaceBook contact Shelly was put in touch with Bob Bower, Fair Acres Family YMCA Executive Director. He stated the main priority at the moment was tarps to keep structures and property dry. An email with Joplin’s immediate need was sent to volunteer pilots. Mark Gingerich of Morton, IL responded by volunteering to take tarps he collected from Adams Outdoor Advertising to Joplin. On May 29th, the first tarp mission was flown by Mark and connecting volunteer pilot, Jackie Jackson of Wildwood, MO. Volunteer pilot, Daniel Fullerton of Fairmont, MN, also responded by flying tarps, tents and leather work gloves collected by his church to Joplin on June 2nd.



**Mark Gingerich helps to load tarps into Ed Lampitt’s plane. Upper right: Ed Lampitt on the tarmac at Byerly Aviation getting ready to fly tarps to Joplin, MO. Lower right: Daniel Fullerton loading his plane with supplies collected at his church to help with clean-up efforts.**



Another tarp mission from Peoria was flown on June 2nd. Only this time, a local Peoria, IL TV station was present as Mark brought more donated tarps for volunteer pilot, Ed Lampitt of Colombia, MO, to fly onto Joplin. The story aired locally that evening and caught the interest of a 97.3 River Country DJ, Rick Stephenson. His morning co-host, Jen Smith, had moved to Peoria from Joplin. River Country invited LifeLine Pilots to participate in a supply drive. Shelly once again contacted Bob to determine what tornado victims would need in a month’s time. Families were being moved into temporary housing and would need items to set up housekeeping. The supply drive “Hangar to Hope” had several drop off locations throughout the Peoria area for people to donate household supplies until July 1st. Two Men and A Truck moving company donated their resources to move supplies from the radio station to a hangar at Byerly Aviation.



**Upper left: Dick Miller’s plane being unloaded at Joplin Regional Airport. Lower left: Supplies from Ross Wear’s plane being sorted and picked up by families left in need after the May tornado. Bottom right: The destroyed Joplin High School.**





Volunteer pilots once again responded with a “can do” attitude. On July 8th, Ross Wear of Bloomington, IL and Dick Miller of Morton, IL arrived at the Byerly Aviation hangar to start loading their planes with the collected supplies. These missions offered a unique opportunity for Jen Smith and myself. We were able to fly with Dick to meet Bob and see firsthand what rebuilding obstacles the residents of Joplin were facing. Jen was able to film the mission for the radio station’s website and for the TV station. With every available space filled in the planes, we took off on that very warm morning landing in Joplin a couple hours later. Bob was overwhelmed by the generosity of their Illinois neighbors. He had two families that were ready to set up housekeeping meet us at the airport. What was incredible to all of us was to witness the generous, compassionate spirit of these tornado victims. They had to be encouraged to take needed supplies. They kept saying how fortunate they were to have escaped without injury. They wanted to make sure there would be enough for others in more need than themselves. With all the supplies on their way to new homes or distribution centers, Bob took us on a tour of the area destroyed by the tornado. Driving down a street that seems untouched then a block later is nearly nonexistent from tornado destruction was like traveling into another dimension. Clean-up crews from all over the country were still donating their time nearly a month and a half after the tornado with much still to be done. The flight home was peaceful knowing that we had made a positive impact on the relief



**Upper left: At Byerly Aviation, Mike Samp loads his Cirrus with “Hangar to Hope” household supplies. Upper right: Gary Rahmeyer unloading household supplies at the Joplin Regional Airport. Lower right: Tad Foster completed the last mission transporting “Hangar to Hope” supplies.**



efforts. The “Hangar to Hope” supplies required three more flights by volunteer pilots. Volunteer pilots, Gary Rahmeyer of Vandalia, MO and Mike Samp of Lacon, IL flew supplies to Joplin on July 12th. The final supply run was completed by volunteer pilot, Tad Foster of Terre Haute, IN, on August 28th.

StarTek, Inc. in Lynchburg, VA also made notice of Shelly’s FaceBook post about LifeLine Pilots relief activities. Their employees had been touched by the stories of Joplin nursing home residents losing their home and possessions. Employees individually adopted residents that didn’t have family. They bought clothes and other personal items for their adopted resident. StarTek could not find any shipping company to help them with the shipping cost so they reached out to LifeLine Pilots. After much coordinating of schedules, volunteer pilot, Frank Ladonne of Buffalo Grove, IL flew the items from Lynchburg, VA to Waukegan, IL. On September 20th, volunteer pilot, Carson Greene of Barrington Hills, IL flew the donations on to Joplin.

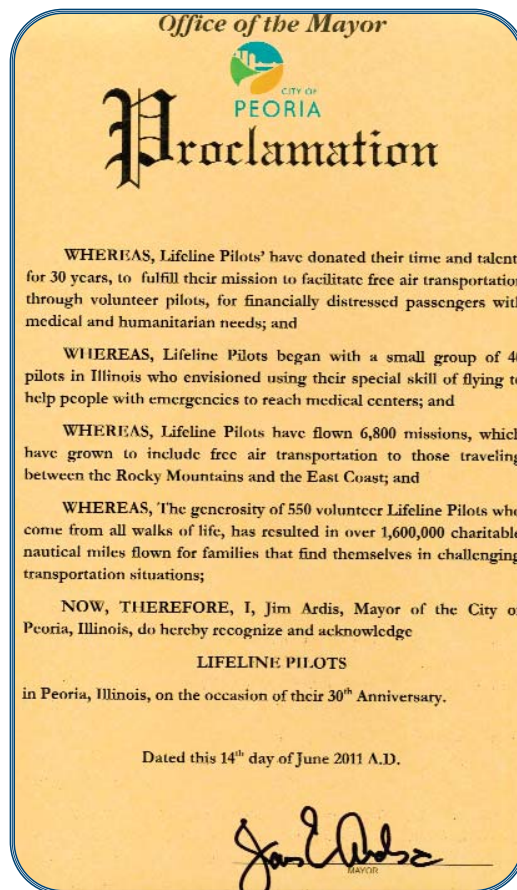
LifeLine Pilots continues to be in touch with the folks in Joplin and will continue to help as needed. I was truly blessed to be a part of the relief missions. Thank you to Dick Miller for taking on the additional “baggage” of a reporter and curious Executive Director. Our volunteer pilots have always stated that being able to see your donation at work first hand is a true joy. I am pleased to say that I have now shared in that experience. Thank you to each of our volunteer pilots that responded to numerous emails with Joplin mission information. I am grateful that LifeLine Pilots has such an organized and motivated Mission Coordinator in Shelly Livengood. A big thank you to all those pilots who were able to carve out time in their schedules to make the Joplin Relief Missions a success!

*Karen Halverson, Executive Director*



**Frank Ladonne at Virginia Aviation in Lynchburg, VA with the folks from StarTek, Inc. Frank flew the supplies collected for nursing home residents to Waukegan, IL. From there, fellow Volunteer Pilot, Carson Greene, flew the supplies on to Joplin.**

***On June 14, 2011, the City of Peoria honored LifeLine Pilots with a Proclamation recognizing 30 years of service to families with transportation needs. Thank you to founder, Wanda Whitsitt, for her vision to create an organization that would touch so many lives!***

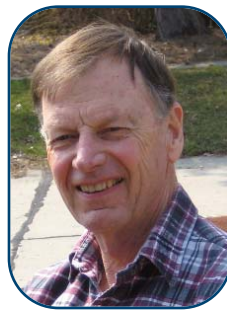


## WELCOME TO NEW DIRECTORS



### **John Goddard**

John is a Manager at Caterpillar in a newly formed division focused on Energy and Sustainability technology across the enterprise. John's primary role is to help position customers for success in the low carbon economy. John also works with Caterpillar research partners to rapidly commercialize new technology. John's 22 year career at Caterpillar includes a variety of assignments in Research, Engine Development and Product Validation. In 2007, John served as the chair of the ETI (Energy Technologies Institute) Technical Committee and facilitated the technology selection process during the formative stages of this government-industry partnership. John's strengths are his abilities to work with and facilitate groups and help these groups establish a vision for their future. John has demonstrated his ability to facilitate teams through the resolution of complex issues, and to develop focused actions to carry forward. John graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering and has completed "Management for the 21st Century" at Bradley University. He is married to Karoline Seitz-Goddard and has one child, Mitchell. John's personal interests include fitness training, automobiles and facilitating special interest groups. He has participated in community events including coaching running groups for the Steamboat 4 mile race, Rebuilding Together and the United Way.



### **David Boyd**

David joins the LifeLine Pilots Board of Directors with his own experience of establishing and running a volunteer pilot organization. In 1985, he founded Banner Airways Ministries, aka: Banner Medical Airlift, a 501 (c) (3) organization. The mission of Banner was to provide long distance medical air transportation to needy people who could not afford commercial air ambulance services. Banner's Navajo airplane, equipped with a stretcher and patient monitoring systems, was based at Lawrenceville/Vincennes International Airport where it completed approximately 150 medial mercy mission until 1994. David is a graduate of Franklin & Marshall College and Ball State University. He served in the United States Air Force retiring with the rank of Major. His was a Professor in the Aviation Flight Department of Vincennes University as well as Assistant Chief Flight Instructor at the University of Illinois, Institute of Aviation. David has had his private pilot certificate since 1975. He also has a flight instructor and ATP rating. Currently, David is active as a Designated Pilot Examiner and free lance CFI. He also served his community as a Boy Scout Leader for 8 years. He and his wife, Diana, have 6 children.

**LifeLine Pilots wishes to thank retiring Board Directors, Edward Cutler and Paul Kaufmann, for their commitment and years of service. Your dedication to LifeLine Pilots' mission was commendable and deeply appreciated.**

**THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PILOTS FOR VOLUNTEERING FOR MISSIONS BETWEEN MAY AND AUGUST 2011!**

Bill Anderson  
 Robert Anderson  
 Kathy Arkwell  
 Keith Baird  
 Mark Bellio  
 Robert Benda  
 George Bracke  
 Gary Brinkman  
 George Busha  
 Don Bruce  
 Scott Butler  
 John Capone  
 Don Cashatt  
 Randy Chekouras  
 Bob Conrad  
 Carlos Contreras  
 Larry Danyluk  
 Darrell Durig  
 Tom Eisma  
 James Folts  
 W.Tad Foster  
 Joseph Fox  
 Jonthan Fuller  
 Daniel Fullerton  
 Mark Gingerich  
 Ed Harrison  
 Doug Hearn  
 John Hinshaw  
 James Hudgin  
 Jackie Jackson  
 Dwight Jennings  
 Jeff Justis  
 George Kalin



Baby Jaxon with his parents Mike & Jennifer traveling with Volunteer Pilot, Gary Rahmeyer, from Mountain View, AR to the Shriner's Hospital in St. Louis, MO



Baby Gabriel faces special challenges being premature. He needed to travel from his home in Provo, UT to specialists in Troy, MI. His mission required a team effort of four Volunteer Pilots, James McCreery, Joseph Fox, David Kalwishky and Ross Wear. He is pictured here with Ross Wear and his father, Joseph, getting ready to fly on the final leg of his mission.

Dave Kalwishky  
 John Klein  
 Craig Kozak  
 Frank Ladonne  
 Ed Lampitt  
 Richard Lawrence  
 Brian Lerwick  
 Craig Loomis  
 Richard Low  
 Richard Lowe  
 James McCreery  
 Dick Miller  
 Wardwell Montgomery  
 Dennis R. Mosbarger  
 Brad Neihouser  
 Charles O'Connell  
 John Osterhage

Larry Price  
 Gary Rahmeyer  
 Ken Reily  
 Michael Samp  
 Paul Schmutzler  
 Raj Sekharan  
 Lowell Sharkey  
 Craig Sherman  
 Byron Small  
 William Teater  
 Jerry Thatcher  
 Ross Wear  
 Kent Webb  
 Steven Wilson  
 Lewis Young  
 Bob Zaretzke  
 Bob Zook



Jeremy and his support passenger, Terry, traveling from Madison, WI to the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. This linking mission was completed by Volunteer Pilots, Brian Lerwick and John Hinshaw.

**LifeLine Pilots,**

**My wife and I would like to thank the whole LifeLine Pilots' organization for everything you do. We have never met such compassionate, caring people and people willing to volunteer their time and money to help others.**

**When I became ill in May, it turned our lives upside down. LifeLine Pilots has helped me to be able to get the health care that I need.**

**Thank you to the great pilots that flew us: Richard Low, Ross Wear, Dick Miller, Craig Loomis and Bill Britt, who was with Angel Flight.**

**The world needs more caring people like all of you at LifeLine Pilots.**

**With great appreciation,  
 David & Jill Amigh**



Volunteer Pilot, Richard Low and his wife, Lesa, with their passengers, Dave & Jill Amigh. Dave needed to travel to Rochester, MN from Gainesville, FL for a second opinion on his condition. Thank you to Richard, Ross Wear and Dick Miller for volunteering for this mission.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY  
MAY ~ AUGUST 2011 DONORS**

AG Cox Foundation  
Mike Andrews  
James & Julie Ashton  
Alan & Caryl Barling  
Robert Benda II  
J.E. Benisch  
Richard Borovec  
David & Diana Boyd  
G. Paul Bracke  
Carl & Verna Schmidt Foundation  
Margaret M. Davis  
Jerry Dewitt  
Eastside Wellness Center  
Francis Beidler Foundation  
Henry & Phyllis Hackman  
Thomas E. Harrington

Robert & May Hess  
Glen or Lisa Kinney  
Frank Ladonne  
Shelly Livengood  
Jerome Mauer  
Dale Messick  
Ohio State University  
Wesley & Sharon Phelan  
Gary Rahmeyer  
Warren & Carol Reynolds  
Ridgeview Elementary School  
Joan B. Ruppman  
Judith Teel  
Whiting Foundaiton  
Marilyn Zeeke

*LifeLine Pilots is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization that facilitates free air transportation through volunteer pilots for financially distressed passengers with medical and humanitarian needs. LifeLine Pilots is funded entirely through the generosity of foundations, corporations and private donors. Program services and outreach initiatives are met through ninety-five cents of every dollar raised in support of our mission. Your generous, tax-deductible donation will enable us to connect more volunteer pilots with passengers in need. LifeLine Pilots sincerely appreciates your commitment to our mission.*



LifeLine Pilots thanks Ohio State University for their support of the "Put Your 2 Cents in for LifeLine Pilots" program.

**Adams Outdoor Advertising**

Thank you to Adams Outdoor Advertising for their continued support by displaying the LifeLine Pilots' billboard throughout Central Illinois.



**Pam Benda at CABA's 2nd Annual Aviation Saves**

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**EAA AIRVENTURE 2011**

LifeLine Pilots enjoyed their 8th year at EAA AirVenture 2011. The organization was very pleased with the number of attendees that visited the new booth space in Hangar C. Many of LifeLine Pilot's volunteer pilots stopped by the booth to say hello and introduce themselves to the staff. LifeLine Pilots is looking forward to next years' event when EAA will celebrate its 60th AirVenture and 75th Anniversary of the Piper Cub.



**Volunteer Pilots, Larry and Sally Snyder manning the LLP booth at EAA AirVenture**

Thank you to all our wonderful booth volunteers at EAA AirVenture 2011: Mike Auster, Kent Bosch, Bob Conrad, Cindy Driscoll, John Hinshaw, Mike Samp, Larry & Sally Snyder, Ross Wear, Jim Young and Bob Zaretzke. Each one of you did a fantastic job sharing your volunteer experiences with booth visitors. Missions didn't stop while the office moved to Oshkosh, WI for the week! A really big thank you to Brian Lerwick, Bob Zaretzke, John Hinshaw, Dick Miller, Dennis Mosbarger, Mike Samp and Darrell Durig for volunteering to make missions possible that week!



**Volunteer Pilot, John Hinshaw and Executive Director, Karen Halverson. We had to convince John that dressing alike is cool so he would wear the appropriate LifeLine Pilots' attire to work the LLP booth.**

Thank you to Bob and Pam Benda for representing LifeLine Pilots at the Colorado Aviation Business Association's 2nd Annual Aviation Saves event at Centennial Airport, Centennial, CO.



# SAVE THE DATE

*Fourth Annual*

# Hope in a Hangar



**April 21, 2012**

Doors Open at 4:00 p.m.

Prime Rib Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Byerly Aviation Terminal,

General Downing Peoria International Airport, Peoria, IL

Tickets: \$50 per person or \$75 a couple

Sponsorship opportunities available

For ticket and sponsorship information,  
please call Shelly Livengood at 800-822-7972 or  
email [missions@lifelinepilots.org](mailto:missions@lifelinepilots.org)

*Limited Seating!  
All tickets must be  
purchased in  
advance!*

*Thank you to Hope in a Hangar Sponsors!*



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 12, 2011~

LifeLine Pilots' Quarterly Board Meeting at Byerly Aviation, Peoria, IL

**December 15, 2011 ~  
Holiday Open House**



Drop by anytime between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. at the LifeLine Pilots' office at Byerly Aviation to enjoy a festive holiday lunch to

**thank you** for your support throughout 2011!

MYLES,  
LIFELINE PILOTS' MASCOT



In recognition of your \$50 donation or more, LifeLine Pilots will send you Myles to join your flight crew.

A Myles Donation form is available at [www.lifelinepilots.org](http://www.lifelinepilots.org) or by calling the office at 800-822-7972.

WELCOME  
NEW VOLUNTEER PILOTS

Bruce Barker  
Chad Howard  
Jonathan Schmelz



Sandra on her way from her home in Frankfort, IN to treatment in Rochester, MN with Volunteer Pilot, Keith Baird



Volunteer Pilot, Ken Reily with passengers Jeffrey and his mother, Carol, traveling home after treatment in Rochester, MN to Muncie, IN. Thank you to linking Volunteer Pilot, Kathy Arkwell, for helping complete this mission.



Nine year old, Andrew, with his mom, Jodi, getting ready to take off from Newark, OH to Chicago, IL with Volunteer Pilot, Frank Ladonne

***LIFELINE PILOTS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

Elected Officers:

Michael Peifer, Chairman  
Gary Rahmeyer, Vice Chairman  
Nancy Blake, Secretary  
Jerry Mauer, Treasurer

Board of Directors:

Robert Benda	Brad Niehouser
Nancy Blake	Michael Peifer
Richard Borovec	Gary Rahmeyer
David Boyd	Jim Svec
George Busha	Christiansen von Wormer
John Goddard	Wanda Whitsitt, Founder
David Kantor	
Euel Kinsey	
Keith Laken	
Jerry Mauer	
Dick Miller	

LifeLine, Inc. dba LifeLine Pilots, has been granted tax exempt 501(c)(3) status by the IRS. All contributions are deductible to the fullest extent of the law. LifeLine Pilots operates solely on the contributions of private citizens, various foundations/corporations and donated aircraft and pilot expenses.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Karen Halverson*

DEVELOPMENT/MISSION COORDINATOR

*Shelly Livengood*

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

*Corey Justus*

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**[www.lifelinepilots.org](http://www.lifelinepilots.org)**

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Peoria, IL 61607



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*Established in 1981, LifeLine Pilots' mission is to facilitate FREE air transportation THROUGH VOLUNTEER pilots for FINANCIALLY DISTRESSED PASSENGERS with MEDICAL/HUMANITARIAN needs.*