

THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Friday, September 24, 2004

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In August 2003, the NTSB met its Congressional obligation to open the NTSB Academy in Ashburn, VA. With one successful year of operating safety training and outreach (see page two for story), the NTSB is proud to announce our NTSB Academy dedication ceremony. This open house event is being hosted by the Board and organized by Vice Chairman Mark Rosenker and Member Carol Carmody, and will be held on October 18th from 11:00-2:00. For more information, or to RSVP, please contact Diane Campbell at 202-314-6400 or by e-mail at academydedication@ntsb.gov.

Ellen Engleman Conners



Highway Safety Launches on Two Fatal Accidents

The Office of Highway Safety (OHS) launched to two fatal accidents this week. On September 20th, **David Rayburn** led the OHS Central Team on an investigation into a tractor semi-trailer collision with congested traffic on Interstate-87 near North Hudson, NY. The accident, which killed four people, occurred at a Border Patrol checkpoint that was set up on I-87, causing a backup on the roadway. The NTSB is working with the Department of Homeland Security and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on this investigation.

On September 21st, **Ken Suydam** led the OHS East Team to an accident in which a tractor semi-trailer collided with oncoming vehicles on US 75 in Sherman Texas. The accident occurred when the truck crossed the median and collided with a sport utility vehicle and a pickup truck, both containing five people. The accident resulted in 10 fatalities.

Vice Chairman Recognized for Safe Boating Advocacy



Fred Messman and NTSB Vice Chairman Mark Rosenker

NTSB Vice Chairman Mark Rosenker received an Honorary Nevada Game Warden award during a meeting of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) in Las Vegas, NV. Outgoing NASBLA President Fred Messman presented the award during the NASBLA Annual Convention. Vice Chairman Rosenker spoke before the Association and recognised the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico for their work in requiring mandatory education in basic boating safety, safety instruction prior to personal watercraft rental and mandatory wear of personal flotation devices by children. These issues are on the NTSB's Most Wanted list of safety recommendations for action by the States.

NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES



FEGLI 2004 Open Season Ends Soon

The FEGLI 2004 Open Season ends on September 30th. This is the time participate if you wish to increase or change your FEGLI coverage. Visit the FEGLI website at www.fegli2004.opm.gov or stop by the Human Resources Office to get more information, or complete your election form.

If you have any other questions, contact **Pam Goins** (202) 314-6236, or at goinsp@ntsb.gov.

On the Hill...

The House Appropriations mark for the NTSB for Fiscal Year 2005 is \$76,925,000. The Senate Appropriations mark is \$76,425,000. A Continuing Resolution is expected to be enacted if the FY 2005 budget is not finalized by September 30th.



NTSB Academy Successfully Begins Second Year



Students in the *Advanced Accident Sight Photography* course sharpen their skills.

The NTSB Academy in Ashburn, VA sponsored eight separate events in one week as it entered its second year. On September 22nd, the Academy sponsored the Cabin Safety Seminar with the Aviation Safety Alliance and the Regional Airline Association. The Offices of Aviation Safety and Transportation Disaster Assistance conducted presentations on human factors, and survivability/victims issues in aviation accidents. The day-long course enrolled 22 participants from varied disciplines and organizations. The Advanced Accident Sight Photography course was held on September 24th, helping 17 students enhance their skills in documenting evidence at accident scenes. Seven NTSB staff participated in the course. During the same week, the Academy provided NTSB Human Resources management training, NTSB media training and response training for the United Airlines Accident Scene Team. The Academy also hosted a sight visit by

the President of the Saudi Civil Aviation Authority, and meetings with the Air Line Pilots Association and Embraer. The Academy's laboratory also received the wreckage of 16 recreational boats and personal water craft from the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. The vessels will be used for marine accident investigation training.

NTSB Academy Director Julie Beal has successfully led the Academy into its second year with the help of NTSB staffers detailed to assist with providing training, holding forums and symposiums and enhancing outreach. This effort has substantially increased the NTSB's safety advocacy efforts.



The NTSB Academy Team: (first row, l-r) Academy Director Julie Beal, Peter Knudson, Virginia Corbett; (second row) Dennis Diaz, Intern Stephanie Matonek, Barbara Czech; (third row) Bill Eisenrauch, Intern Sarah Emanuel and Don Chupp.