

## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Friday, December 17, 2004

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Next Tuesday is the beginning of winter - a challenging season for the nation's transportation system. Our recommendations this week in response to Cessna 208 icing issues are a good reminder that cold weather affects us all, and more diligence is necessary in any method of travel or transportation.

As we continue into this holiday season, we once again celebrate the opportunities to spend time with family and friends. The town hall meeting that I attended on Thursday proved how important safety is to our families and our communities. For the families of the nearly 45,000 victims of transportation accidents this year, it will be an especially difficult period. Take some extra time when you plan your travel so you will arrive safely home to your loved ones this season.

*Ellen Engleman Conners*

#### Happy Holidays!

The Chairman's Corner will not be published over the holidays. We will resume with the January 7th issue.

**Best wishes to all of you for a happy and safe holiday season!!**

### NTSB Promotes Teen Driving Safety

NTSB Chairman Engleman Conners spoke to a group of Washington, DC area parents as part of a town hall meeting on teen driving safety on December 16th. Other members of the panel consisted of representatives from DaimlerChrysler Corporation, the National Safety Council, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the American Automobile Association and the Maryland Legislature. The group convened due a series of high visibility car accidents in the region that killed 17 teens in recent months.

In 2003, teens were involved in 1.7 million vehicle crashes nationwide, injuring 400,000 and killing nearly 5000. Teens are twice as likely to be involved in a fatal accident as older drivers, and highway accidents are the leading cause of death for this age group.

The Safety Board has a long history of examining causes and consequences of teen driving crashes. In 1993, the Board issued the first of a series of recommendations to reduce and prevent young driver accidents. These recommendations -- including graduated driver licensing, nighttime driving restrictions, passenger restrictions and underage drinking -- remain on the Board's list of Most Wanted safety recommendations.



NTSB Chairman Engleman Conners addresses the audience as Chuck Hurley from the National Safety Council looks on.

# NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES



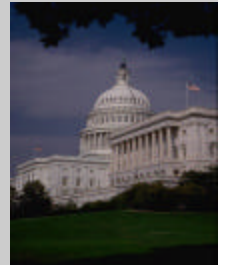
## Awards Nominations

The 2004 Annual Awards Ceremony will be held in the Board Room of the NTSB Conference Center on Wednesday, March 2, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. This is your chance to honor your fellow NTSB employees by nominating them for any of the nine awards. Award criteria and nomination forms are available through Human Resources (HR).

Please submit all nominations for the nine major award categories to Colette Magwood in HR by Monday, January 10, 2005.

## On the Hill...

The Office of Government and Industry Affairs (GIA) is preparing for a meeting with Senate Appropriations staff to clarify language in the Department of Transportation appropriations conference report on the 2005 budget. GIA is also updating the 2006 Annual Budget Request to Congress, which is due the day after the President's State of the Union address in January.



The 109<sup>th</sup> Congress convenes on January 4, 2005.

## Safety Recommendations Address Icing

The NTSB made four safety recommendations to the FAA on December 15th, intended to prevent icing problems with Cessna 208 series aircraft. The recommendations are the result of an in-depth assessment of 26 icing-related accidents and incidents between 1987 and 2003 involving these airplanes - also known as the Caravan - which resulted in at least 36 fatalities. The recommendations, which address seasonal training, operational icing strategies, inspections and surveillance, come as the 2004/2005 cold weather season approaches.

To read the recommendation letter, which includes the four recommendations, background information and photographs, visit the NTSB website at: [http://www.nts.gov/Recs/letters/2004/A04\\_64\\_67.pdf](http://www.nts.gov/Recs/letters/2004/A04_64_67.pdf)



A Cessna 208 "Caravan", which is the subject of four new recommendations.

## NTSB Celebrates Holidays



**NTSB employees took a little time this week to celebrate the holiday season.**

**Congratulations to everyone for a successful year!**

