

Quarterly newsletter of Angel Flight Mid-Atlantic, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charity

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Pilot's Dream of Flight Goes On

“There’s great satisfaction in being able to help people,” explained Angel Flight pilot John Nisley.

A native of Holmes County, Ohio, Nisley currently lives in northwestern Pennsylvania and has been flying Angel Flight missions since the summer of 2008.

Holmes County is the largest Amish community in the world.

Childhood Fascination

Growing up on a dairy farm, he attended a two-room Amish school from first to eighth grade. From that time, he recalls his earliest memories of airplanes.

“I remember how fascinated I was watching (while playing and working on our farm) planes descending into KERI from KPIT.”

He also recalls looking at a silver twin prop toy passenger plane in a Sears catalogue.

“I was wishing my parents had the money to buy it for me,” he said.

More Progressive Church

Dreaming of the day he would be able to fly real planes, Nisley first had to become a Mennonite. “For us it was a matter of joining a church that was more progressive in lifestyle practices.” (The Amish prohibit airplane travel.)

As a Mennonite he started off flying planes



Flood victim was Nisley’s first Angel Flight passenger

on Microsoft Flight Simulator. Once he earned his private and instrument ratings, the desire to fly real planes only deepened.

Dream Takes Off

Finally, in 2001, a pilot friend of Nisley’s offered him a partnership in his Mooney M20F.

“This was the beginning of a dream that is still on going,” Nisley said.

From 2001 to 2003, he spent time

earning his private and instrument rating in the Mooney and now has over 500 flight hours.

Angel Flight Discovered

Nisley discovered Angel Flight by reading aviation magazines and flew his first mission in 2008. His first passenger was Steve, a Cedar Rapids flood victim who used Angel Flight to be with family on the East Coast.

“He left with two cats, two sets of clothes, some canned food, a credit card and \$26 cash.” Nisley added that although Steve was able to carry everything he owned in his duffel bag, he was upbeat and appreciated what he had.

Following his childhood dream of flying planes, Angel Flight was a way for Nisley to use his plane to help others.

“Flying Angel Flight missions is a way for me to use my airplane to reach out to, and bless people that I would never have an opportunity [to bless] otherwise.” ✈

Central Command with Jim Smith

Golf Charity and Veterans Event Highlight Service, Sacrifice



Jim Smith is Angel Flight's Executive Director

As summer ends and harvest time is here, we are mindful of how much we have to be thankful for.

A day doesn't go past that we're not touched by the generosity of our donors and the support of those who believe in our mission.

One such supporter recently sponsored a golf tournament with all the proceeds being donated to Angel

Flight. Joel Carrillo coordinated the second annual Dave and John's Remembrance Golf Tournament in Newport News, Virginia, which resulted in an extraordinary gift of over \$8,500.



Sgt. Edmundson and his family are homeward bound following Halos and Heroes, to be flown by Angel Flight pilot Jeff Douglass (far right)



The gang at worked hard to make the golf tourney a success. The oversized check is for \$8,500 to fund patient flights.

We had the honor of hosting some of our wounded warriors at our annual Halos and Heroes event on October 3rd.

The event highlighted the sacrifices of these heroes who serve our country daily and the service of our volunteer pilots who go above and beyond to serve patients in need.

Thank you again for the support you've provided over the years. Your generous donations result in a harvest of hope for the many needy patients we serve. ✈️

Give Miles, Save Lives!



Donate your miles to a great cause. Give wings to patients needing charitable flights.

US Airways partners with Mercy Medical Airlift to provide free airline tickets for patients in need. The airline is launching a campaign to expand outreach through a mileage matching program that will match 1,000 miles for every 5,000 miles donated to MMA.

Through its Dividend Miles division, US Airways will match donations up to 25,000 miles.

To donate miles, visit www.MercyMedical.org or www.usairways.com/donatemiles. Be sure to tell your friends and family to do the same!

Campaign extends from Nov. 24 until Dec. 31.

www.AngelFlightMidAtlantic.org

Documentary Wins International Prize



Suzanne Rhodes, Mercy Medical Airlift's director of Public Affairs, gives an acceptance speech after receiving the Redemptive Storyteller award on behalf of Mercy Medical Airlift and Cross and Flag Productions. The international Redemptive Film

Festival was held at Regent University in Virginia Beach on October 16-17.

To order your DVD copy of *Compassion Takes Flight*, visit AngelFlightMidAtlantic.org. Or, you can send a check for \$25 (includes S&H) payable to Mercy Medical Airlift at the address below (indicate "Film").



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