

Subject: **Grey Eagles New Years Message**
Date: 1/22/2020 4:17:55 PM Central Standard Time
From: gepresident2020@gmail.com
To: dkjonsson@aol.com



The Grey Eagles

President's Letter 2020

Dear Grey Eagle Friends
Welcome to 2020!



First, I'd like to introduce myself. I'm Dave Pakiz, 2020 President of the Grey Eagles. For those that don't know me, I was an ORD based pilot for 30 years, flew all the Boeings (including the 707!) and the S-80. I did a short stint as CKA on the 757/767, retired flying the 777 in 2007 and I believe I had a great airline career! Prior to AA I spent 6 years as a USAF Pilot where I flew mostly RF-4's at Bergstrom AFB in Austin, TX. My early years were spent growing up on a dairy farm in central Wisconsin, and attending college (ROTC) in Superior, WI. I am married to Betty, my wife of 50 years, have 4 children and 7 grandkids. Life is very busy!

I was asked to take a board position with the Grey Eagles several years ago. I initially resisted but realized that this organization is important and has a lot to offer senior and retired pilots. Someone has to step up. Here I am!

So what does the Grey Eagles have to offer? In short, opportunities to continue our friendship with the pilots we've known for a long time and just as important to make new friends at the various functions that the Grey Eagles provides. Those of you who participate understand the value of these friends as do our spouses who accompany us. We do enjoy each other's company at these events!

What are the events? Mainly, the monthly lunch gatherings and holiday parties all over the country, the retirement dinners and the big event, the annual convention. I urge you to go on the Grey Eagles website to learn about these gatherings and attend some of these events. BTW, you don't need

a password to get on the website. Member lookup and your profile update are the only pages where a password is needed.

The Grey Eagles Website

The local functions are too numerous to cover here, but I want to especially promote attending the retirement dinners in your local area. Even if you don't know the retirees, you'll see your old friends from the past and they'll be just as happy to see you! Plan to attend with your spouse!

My main focus this year is the Tucson 2020 Convention. The dates are October 29 – November 2. Check out the schedule below and this short video the hotel provided for us. We're still working on this and details may change but it's going to be a great time! Also, the hotel we've selected is outstanding, the Loews Ventana Canyon. We were able to get a great rate, \$149 per night plus tax with no resort fee (\$167/night, all in). Hotel Reservations can be made by clicking the box below. You can also call Loews directly at 800-234-5117 or call our event planner, Vicki McGowen at 775-722-2811. Reservations are cancellable up to 72 hours prior. We're sure you will be impressed and pleased with this hotel. Registration forms for the convention itself will be coming out soon and will be on the website. We are getting a great response so far and I believe this will be a very well attended event. Come join us for the party!

[Tucson Schedule](#)

[Loews Video](#)

[Hotel Reservations](#)

We are working hard to make this organization the best it can be. Your part will be to join in the activities with your fellow pilots and make it even better!

Contact me with any questions or just to say hello!

Dave Pakiz, Grey Eagles President 2020

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