

Yes, you are invited to join the Grey Eagles! Curious to find out why you should?

We are all pilots and the characteristics that set us apart from the general population is the heart of the matter. Study after study has shown that social interaction is an important factor for extending lifespan. Some of the common characteristics shared by pilots are: We all talk pilot, we talk with our hands and we talk from knowledge and experience. We like to share our experiences so why not be part of that?

Pilots put things in boxes and expect to find them right where we left them when we return. If they are not there, then the search is on and it does not stop until the missing item is found. When you retire, you may not miss a lot of things but you WILL miss the camaraderie of your fellow pilots. Where will you find your pilot group?

Pilots are suspicious of our environment, a characteristic that kept us alive in the cockpit. Trust for pilots is hard earned and we generally trust other pilots. So, think of the Grey Eagles as a box where you left all your trusted fellow pilots.

What is happening in that Grey Eagle box? We are enjoying our local luncheon groups found around the country; we are having a great time at our conventions, both land and cruise. That's right, the Grey Eagles is about getting together and having a great time – and we are really good at it!

Consider our land conventions. The very first thing that happens is 200-300 Grey Eagles show up at registration and then eagerly head for the hospitality suite. Next is the reception where all those pilots reconnect, make new friends, talk about old friends, and become pilots talking pilot. The next couple of days are spent out the door on guided tours. Tours such as the Pima Air Museum, Lockheed Martin F-35 manufacturing facility, Cape Canaveral, or the Nevada Nuclear Test Site. Maybe you would prefer an airboat ride, a great museum in the city or Disney World. We have done all of that .... and more! After the tours you can have dinner with the group and then head for the hospitality suite .... again!

Our cruise conventions are wonderful. New England fall foliage cruise, Bahamas, Caribbean, Alaska, Mexico. Private parties on the ships, tours with your friends, time alone. Cruising is a special vacation and is more so with special people.

This all sounds like fun, but the organization does a lot more. We work to minimize the problems associated with the information disconnect that occurs during retirement. Do you have questions about how Medicare dovetails with the APA Supplemental Medical or Tricare? Our members have been through that hoop and can provide some details that may help you. Speaking of the APA Supplemental Medical, do you have it? If not, you might want to reconsider. Life has its surprises.

We will encourage you to keep your APA contact information current. That way you see changes in APA medical (Supplemental Medical) and other plans that may affect you. We have helped members sort out the details of changes in AA retiree benefits. We also provide assistance to your spouse, significant other or family member if something happens to you.

Yes, joining is the first step, and then you are a stakeholder in the future of the organization. It will be your ideas, your innovations, and your involvement that powers the Grey Eagles through the 21st century – ensuring a vibrant organization for the pilots who will follow in your flight path.

Have some questions? Call one or more of the officers and get answers. Talk to friends and acquaintances who are Grey Eagles and find out about their experiences.

**Ready to join now?** Click on the red “Membership Application” button above. Just file the application, pay the fee and we'll promptly welcome you into the finest airline pilot retiree organization in the U.S. We look forward to seeing you at our next event!