

the pilots requested and received permission to land on Runway 26R to reduce their time in the air.

As Ivey's windshield had cracked to the point of severely restricting his view forward, he transferred control of the airplane to Paterson, who landed the airplane. Ivey's windshield continued to crack to touchdown.

"Capt. Ivey and F/O Paterson skillfully dealt with two inflight emergencies that could have easily resulted in a very different outcome had they not handled the events so deftly, calmly, and efficiently," Capt. Brian Shury, the Jazz pilots' Master Executive Council chairman, noted. "Their actions serve as a shining example of the professionalism of ALPA members."



Capt. Paul Ivey (Jazz Air) says a few words after receiving his Senior Airmanship Award.

Pilot Assistance Award

"The 2009 ALPA Pilot Assistance Award honoree, American Eagle F/O Rich Wilkening, is a natural cultivator," Prater said. "An Iowa farmer, he also has established a reputation for bringing out the best in his fellow pilots, particularly those who need some extra help in getting their careers or personal lives back on track."

"During his 8 years with the ALPA Pilot Assistance Committee," Prater continued, "Rich has been a tremendous resource for the Aeromedical and HIMS Committees. He continues to serve as pilot liaison with ALPA's Aeromedical Office in Denver, and routinely assists pilots with a variety of debilitating concerns."

In the more than three decades since it was created, the HIMS Program, the FAA-funded substance-abuse treatment program for airline pilots, has helped thousands of flight-crew members return to the cockpit—and Wilkening has worked with scores of them. The modest ALPA volunteer, accepting the Award, said, "I never thought a regional airline first officer would end up on the stage up here, receiving an award for just talking to troubled pilots."



The 2009 ALPA Pilot Assistance Award honoree, F/O Rich Wilkening (American Eagle).

Aviation Security Award

"During the last decade, Capt. Bill McReynolds has spearheaded many projects, but the following is a glimpse of some of his accomplishments and responsibilities. Until recently, he served as vice-chairman of the ALPA National Security Committee, but Bill is probably best known for his extensive

work specifically with air cargo security," Prater said.

He has helped to lead the ALPA charge for better pilot-screening protocols and installation of flightdeck secondary barriers. He is also a staunch advocate for the Federal Flight Deck Officer program and one level of safety and security for both passenger and air freight operations.

McReynolds is the Security Committee chairman for the FedEx Express MEC. After 9/11, he became ALPA's representative to the Aviation Security Advisory Committee's Air Cargo Security Working Group, which has aided in the development of several significant all-cargo airline security programs. He has also provided important input and been an active advocate for the Transportation Security Administration's All-Cargo Carrier Common Strategy.



Capt. Bill McReynolds (FedEx) receives the Aviation Security Award.

McReynolds thanked Prater "for his unflinching support of all things cargo." He noted that the FedEx MEC "has played a large role" in ALPA's cargo security activities, "and we're going to continue to do so."

McReynolds is the current chairman of the ALPA President's Committee for Cargo, serving in this capacity since 2002. Through this Committee, he has had remarkable success in conducting "user group" meetings at several air cargo ramp locations to address security concerns, improve efficiency, and open lines of communication among stakeholders.

"While we're in here tonight, hundreds of cargo flights are operating all over the world without the safeguards enjoyed by passenger airlines," McReynolds declared. "The best thing we can do for them is to continue to press for one level of safety and security for *all* airline operations—passenger and all-cargo."

Air Safety Award

"Jazz Air Capt. Ray Gelinas—the 2009 ALPA Air Safety Award honoree—lives and breathes aviation safety," Prater noted, "whether he's practicing it in a cockpit, teaching it in a classroom, or analyzing it at an accident investigation site. During the 20-plus years he has given to ALPA and the Canadian Air Line Pilots Association before it, Ray's contributions can be felt across North America's skies and around the globe."

"Like most Air Safety Award recipients, Ray is your classic ALPA overachiever, but what sets him apart is the extent to which he continues to carry ALPA's aviation safety message. He is chairman of the Air Safety Committee's Accident Analysis and Prevention Group, a member of ALPA's Accident Investigation Board, an accident investigator for the Jazz Air MEC, and an ALPA Safety Two School and Advanced Accident Investigation School instructor. He has also been the ALPA air safety communications coordinator, central air safety chairman and air safety communications coordinator for the Jazz Air MEC, and central air safety chairman for Air Nova."

Gelinas has also served multiple terms as regional vice-president for the Canada/Arctic Region of IFALPA. He has worked with government and industry stakeholders on various projects and policy initiatives, including a member of several Canadian Aviation Regulation Advisory Councils.

Gelinas has extensive field experience. For example, he was on the scene in Halifax to assist with the investigation of the Swiss Air Flight 111 accident of Sept. 2, 1998. During the investigation, he took on the difficult task of sorting through parts of the cabin interior, including dangerous carbon flooring, and discovered evidence



Capt. Ray Gelinas (Jazz Air), 2009 ALPA Air Safety Award honoree who “lives and breathes aviation safety.”

that helped the Transportation Safety Board of Canada determine crucial factors that led to the accident.

The CRJ pilot also exhibited strong leadership skills during the 9/11 crisis when large numbers of aircraft diverted to Halifax International Airport. Assisting the passengers and crews of those flights was a monumental undertaking, but he was on hand, putting in long hours to provide his knowledge and support.

Asking his wife, son, and daughter to join him on the stage, Gelinas thanked his family “for all the missed events” from which his air safety work kept him. “After 20 years of ALPA and CALPA volunteer work, obviously, I need to learn to say ‘no,’” he joked.

“For the first time,” he added, “I can thank my mom and dad publicly—because of them, because they encouraged and supported me joining the Air Cadets when I was young, I am an airline pilot.”

“This award is something I’m truly proud of,” he concluded. “We get into ALPA volunteer work to make a difference; I hope I have.”

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ALPA's Awards Luncheon

ALPA presents well-deserved awards to a major airport, several ALPA pilots, and a cabin crew for their contributions to enhancing airline safety and security

By Jan W. Steenblik, Technical Editor

At this year's Air Safety Forum, the Association held an awards luncheon—on Tuesday, August 31—in addition to the awards banquet held that evening.

Opening the luncheon, ALPA's president, Capt. John Prater, noted, “At this Forum, we bring together all of our representatives whose important work in the disciplines of safety, security, jumpseat, cargo, and pilot assistance fuels our union's strong leadership in these areas. Indeed, our union's reputation as the leading nongovernmental airline safety and security advocate in the world is due in large part to the efforts of our pilot representatives and our partnerships with government agencies and industry organizations.”

ALPA Airport Award

Prater, presented the annual ALPA Airport Award to Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD).

“The Chicago Department of Aviation is consistently receptive to our union's safety concerns,” Prater observed. “The Department has invited ALPA to participate in the airport's monthly aviation safety meetings, and in regular and ad hoc briefings on issues that range from runway lighting

and winter operations to disaster preparedness and the airport's multi-year reconstruction effort.”

Capt. Mike Maas (American Eagle) and Jeffrey Sedin (United),

ALPA's airport safety liaisons at O'Hare, participate in these important briefings and roundtable discussions. Both pilots received the ALPA Outstanding Airport Liaison Representative Award in 2009 for their years of advocating for pilot interests at ORD.

“With the airport environment constantly changing during O'Hare's ongoing modernization,” Prater continued, “the solid commitment by the Chicago Department of Aviation and the Chicago Fire Department to work with our union could not be more important. Chicago O'Hare has set the standard, and we hope it will serve as a model for the industry.”

Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie Andolino accepted the award on behalf of ORD.

ASL Award

Capt. Alexandro Fotopoulos (American Eagle) received the ALPA Airport Safety Liaison (ASL) of the Year Award for his tireless efforts on pilots' behalf at La Guardia International Airport (LGA).

“Capt. Fotopoulos has worked for years to ensure that the



Andolino



Capt. Fotopoulos

PHOTOS: MIKE KEZA