



LIFELINE PILOTS
the shortest distance between home and hope

MISSION MOMENTS



What's in this newsletter:

UNDER OUR WING

NEW COMMAND PILOTS

PILOTS CORNER: NEAL GLASSETT

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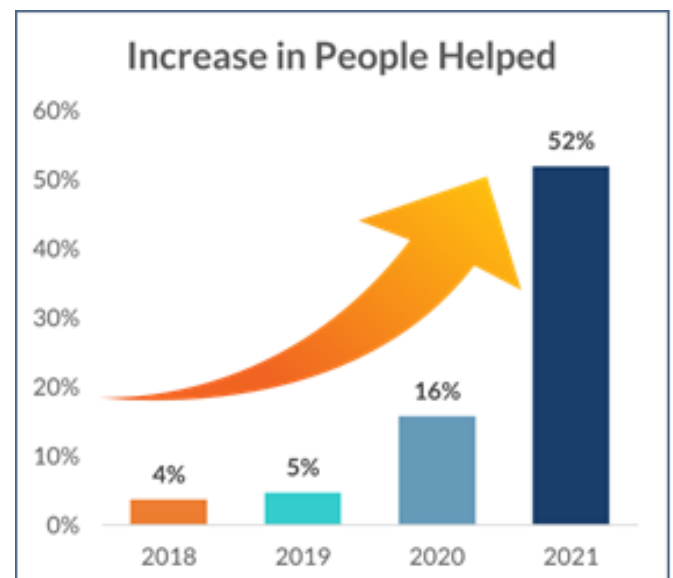
From the Desk of the Executive Director

WRITTEN BY LINDSEY KERR

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” – Elizabeth Andrew

LifeLine Pilots is incredibly lucky to have almost 300 volunteer pilots who give tirelessly of themselves to help strangers in need.

These selfless volunteers help hundreds of passengers to gain access to life-saving, and life-extending, medical care. Last year, because of you, we flew 52% more flights and helped more people than ever before.



Under Our Wing

WRITTEN BY TYLER LISTON
OUTREACH AND MISSION COORDINATOR



I've received more than one phone call over the past few months thanking us for what we do. These passengers and family members tell us that we do amazing work here at LifeLine Pilots.

And we always tell them the same thing:

"It's not us. Our PILOTS do amazing work."

Without our pilots, LifeLine Pilots would be just another aviation transportation business. It's our pilots who display the love and light to the world and who make such a huge difference in the lives of our passengers.

I'd like to draw your attention to a few pilots making an impact this past quarter. Brad Neihouse has come back to LifeLine Pilots and has made an immediate impact for our passengers. Since signing back up as a command pilot last month, Brad has already flown four missions! Even this morning, as I sat down with my computer, I saw that he has volunteered for three more flights in the coming weeks.



John Lacey is another pilot who is making an impact. Headquartered in Minnesota, John has also flown four missions since joining us last month. John is a wealth of information, having already taught Ann and myself several things about weather, aviation, and even life itself.

Blake Allred of Marshall, MO, flew his first two missions, helping Janice of Joplin, MO, get to and from her cancer treatments. Other pilots flying their second missions were Bruce Barker of Carmel, IN, Marc Berridge of Solon, OH, and Paul van den Heuvel of Lake in the Hills, IL.

Rich Traunero of Tiffin, OH, completed his TENTH mission!



We were excited to get Joseph West of Wayne, IL, started. He joined in 2021 and was able to fly for the first time in March, helping on a linking flight with our sister organization, Angel Flight Soars.

Unfortunately, we've also had to say "goodbye" to a couple of our repeat passengers this quarter. Lori C. of Pierre, SD flew with us over 40 times in the past year, but the cancer she was fighting ultimately proved to be too much.

Lori and her husband, Steve, were such amazing passengers. They were so thankful to the dozens of pilots who helped them throughout her battle.

We also had to say a tearful goodbye to Cassie T. in March. Cassie was a young mother who fought her breast cancer with everything she had in her.

Without the help of pilots like Neal Glassett, Ty Smith, Bob Briggs, and several other pilots, she would not have had these extra months to spend with her three year-old son, Greer. Our heart breaks for her family's loss, but we vow to work that much harder towards our mission in her honor.

We are helping more folks in need than ever before, and we are doing it because we have the best pilots in the nation on our team. If you're one of our pilots, make sure that you are asking for fuel and fee discounts at all the FBOs you visit while flying a mission. Many of them will offer a discount on fuel and will waive your fees. All you have to do is ask!

LifeLine Pilots is also a part of the Phillips 66 Compassion Flight Rebate Program! As a proud supporter of pilots who fly compassion flights organized by eligible charitable organizations, Phillips 66 Aviation provides a \$1-per-gallon avgas rebate to help support the pilots who selflessly donate their time and aircraft so that children and adults may access life-saving medical care, free of charge. There's more information about that on their website. Click [HERE](#) to learn more!

As always, thank you all for everything you do for us and for our passengers. We here at LifeLine Pilots appreciate you more than you could ever imagine.





**"IF YOU WANT TO LIFT YOURSELF UP,
LIFT UP SOMEONE ELSE." – BOOKER T.
WASHINGTON**

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

NEW COMMAND PILOTS

David Robinette

Ty Smith

John Boos

Aaron Elder

Dominic Zastarkis

Robert Colley

Chris Fillar

John Lacy

Dragan Lazic

Jackson Maddux

Ancel Patrick

Keith Phillips

David Warner

James Gray

Raymond Sciuckas

PILOT'S CORNER



Command Pilot Neal Glassett

WRITTEN BY ANN RUDE
GRANT AND MISSION COORDINATOR

Neal Glassett went to high school with mega star Beyonce.

And this is the least interesting thing about him!

Glassett is the Clark Kent of LifeLine Pilots. Beyond that mild-mannered exterior lies a superhero: A husband, a dad, a successful accountant, an accomplished musician, a genealogist, an instrument rated pilot with a

tailwheel endorsement, a world traveler, a humanitarian. And he speaks two languages.

“I really don’t know how I got interested in flying, to be honest,” he said. “I grew up in Naperville, IL, and one of my friends lived in a neighborhood that had its own runway. I always thought that was neat.”

And what about Beyonce? Music was Glassett’s first love. He began playing the cello at a young age and was very serious about it. When his family moved to Houston, TX, he was accepted into a fine arts school to play in their orchestra. Beyonce was just another student, singing in the chorus. It wasn’t until years later, hanging with a buddy, that he wondered who among his classmates had achieved fame.



“I thought, I went to a fine arts school. Surely **SOMEBODY** good came out of there. I saw Beyonce had gone to the school, so I ran up to my office and pulled out my yearbook. There she was!” he remembered.

In addition to the cello, Glassett also plays the piano and was on track for a musical career. But when he attended college, he decided to go with numbers while maintaining his passion for the cello. This is when he started playing with a flight simulator.

When he met an airplane mechanic, he jokingly asked to go for a ride.

“I went flying with an instructor that Thursday,” Glassett said. “I had a great time! I graduated a few weeks later and my first job was down the street from an airport. I started flying lessons after work.”

Family responsibilities stalled his flying aspirations for a few years, but once things settled, Glassett was back at it. He earned his pilot's license in eight months while simultaneously playing cello for the Knox-Galesburg symphony, having a growing family, and working full time.

After training in Cessnas, his first airplane purchase was a Piper Archer.

"I had read about LifeLine Pilots, but I did not meet the requirements. But I also read about an organization called Pilots N Paws that did not have any hour requirements. I did my first Pilots N Paws flight in November 2016 from Peoria all the way to Pittsburgh in my (slow) Piper Archer. I'd have to go count again, but I believe I've now flown over 70 animals for Pilots N Paws," he recounts.

In 2017 Glassett was assigned to a position in Mannheim, Germany. He tried to learn German and continues to practice daily to maintain a vocabulary.

Glassett's wife is German, so he taught himself to read old German cursive to more accurately pursue another passion, genealogy.

"When I have time," he said, "I'm an avid family history researcher. I've not only done this for myself and my wife's family, but I have also done some research for friends, and I really enjoy it."



Flying also took a prominent role during his time in Germany. Glassett was able to earn a Tailwheel Endorsement by flying a Piper J-3 Cub and a Boeing Stearman. He also had the opportunity to pilot an old French biplane called a Stampe.

The Glassetts enjoyed seeing a fair bit of Europe while living there. Then the pandemic hit, and they scrambled to get back home.

Navigating the border crossings and getting their belongings quickly to the US was 'a nightmare' according to Glassett. There is always a silver lining, and lucky for LifeLine Pilots, Glassett had accrued the necessary hours and was ready to become a Command Pilot for us.

He traded his Archer for a faster Lance and in between performing symphonic works, practicing deutsche Zeitformen, attending family activities, and working full time as a senior accountant, Glassett watches VPOIDs and swoops in to pick up tough flights at the last minute.

He's combined visiting family with flying Tennessee passenger Cassie to MD Anderson and back several times. His roomy plane allowed her to bring her son and husband, giving her family a bit of a treat before she passed away . Recently he stepped in at the last minute and took a desperate family from Peoria, IL, to Pittsburgh, PA. His first flight, however, was a long-time passenger, Lori, from Pierre, SD.

"It was a privilege to meet her," Glassett remembers, "She was so upbeat and sweet for all that she was going through."

Flying compassionate missions allows Glassett to see places he didn't know existed. "I love how doing some of these things gets you to corners of the earth you didn't know were there," he said.



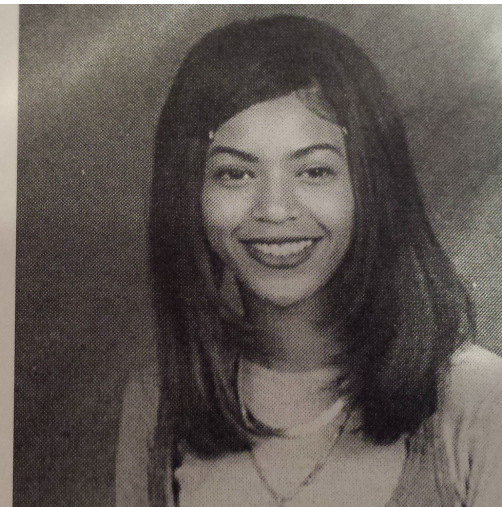


Courageously saving an orphaned dog, easing the burden of a suffering fellow man, entertaining through music, tracking down lost relatives, doing aviation acrobatics, and balancing the books for multi-billion-dollar corporation – it's all in a day's work for Neal Glassett.

Take that, Beyonce!



Beyonce Knowles
Vocal
Christopher Kotarba
Instrumental



Thank You Donors!



LifeLine Pilots receives no government funding. Instead, we rely on the generous donations of individuals, businesses, foundations, and trusts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following organizations for their generous donations towards our mission:

- Sage Foundation
- Cerner Charitable Foundation
- Peoria Medical Society Alliance



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mission!



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