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tions, airlines, aerospace manufacturers, high-level representation from Capitol Hill, and Federal agencies. More than 90 major aviation corporations and associations participated representing 37 states and several countries. This year's Honorary Chairman was Jack Pelton, Chairman, President & CEO of Cessna Aircraft

## THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GREATER WASHINGTON AVIATION OPEN HELPS CANCER PATIENTS FIGHT THEIR BATTLE

In 1989, a group of aviation executives established the Greater Washington Aviation Open (GWAO) as a means for aviation companies to support a worthy cause related to air transportation while enjoying a day of sports and camaraderie. Now the largest aviation charity event in the Washington DC area, the GWAO celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 5 at the Lansdowne Resort in Virginia and raised a record \$140,000 for Corporate Angel Network (CAN). Over the past twenty years, the GWAO has raised more than \$1,250,000 for CAN.

Attendees for the day's events included senior leadership from major aviation associations,



(L to R) Paul Bollinger, Tim Letzkus, Jon Ash (GWAO), Peter Fleiss (CAN) Jeff Lehman (GWAO), Jack Pelton (Cessna/CAN), Randy Greene (Safe Flight/CAN), Ed Hazelwood, Steve Martin (GWAO).

*continued on next page*



(L to R) Carolyn Coveney, Vicki Blucher

## CAN AND KIDS WALK FOR KIDS WITH CANCER

On May 10, a beautiful Spring Saturday in New York City, more than four hundred participants, mainly children and teenagers, stretched their legs and walked in support of Kids Walk for Kids with Cancer, an annual event organized by students whose proceeds support pediatric cancer research by doctors at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Among them was Carolyn Coveney, a young cancer survivor, and Corporate Angel Network's Vicki Blucher, who by walking helped to raise more than \$125,000 for neuroblastoma research at Memorial Sloan-Kettering. Neuroblastoma is an aggressive childhood cancer with a 30% survival rate nationwide. "Watching all the children and adults enthusiastically raise money reminded me of why all of us at Corporate Angel Network do the work we do," said Vicki.

*continued on page 2*

## From the President

**A**s we look forward to summer, a season we associate with time spent enjoying a break from our normal routines, CAN continues to prosper in every way. Our list of participating corporations has now reached 568. Our total number of cancer patient flights since the first flight in 1981 is now over 29,000 and we are steadily working our way towards the 30,000<sup>th</sup>! Volunteers continue to recruit pro bono advertising and new corporations. And last, but certainly not least, the Greater Washington Aviation Open, held last month, raised an extraordinary \$140,000!

All of these milestones are testament to the magnificent efforts of the staff, volunteers, organizations, donors and corporations who make Corporate Angel Network flourish. Each patient we help to access the best possible medical care joins us in thanking you.

Bonnie Greene Le Var

## Aviation Open...continued from page 1

Company. Mr. Pelton is also a member of Corporate Angel Network's Board of Directors. The event is planned and managed by an all-volunteer tournament committee which includes Tournament Director Paul Bollinger; Pete West, West Advocacy; Don Skiados, Air Line Pilots Association International; Jeff Lehman, OBN Aviation; Jon Ash, InterVISTAS-ga2.; Mary Miller, Signature Flight Support; Ed Hazelwood, Aviation Week Group; Paul Wiedefeld, Maryland Transportation Authority, and Tim Letzkus, of Sullivan Hidgon & Sink. CAN volunteers Betty Hanswirth and Linda Friedman were also on hand and did a wonderful job helping out.

After a beautiful day of golf and tennis, participants enjoyed the Victory Reception and Awards Banquet featuring a live auction. "Flights of Fancy" around the world travel and resort accommodations were donated by airlines and hotels; these included business-class travel packages to Europe and Asia and first-class tickets and packages to U.S. destinations and resorts, and a type rating in a Cessna Mustang Jet donated by Flight Safety International. CAN participating corporations were well represented among the donors and bidders. A check for \$140,000 was presented to CAN by the GWA Board of Directors. GWA Board of Directors, Paul Bollinger, remarked "Every year the support for CAN by the aviation community grows stronger and this year, our 20th anniversary, proved to be the greatest ever."

"The funds raised here and donated to Corporate Angel Network are instrumental in our ability to continue to provide and expand our service" said CAN's Executive Director, Peter Fleiss during the check presentation. "We now fly three times the number of cancer patients we flew just 8 years ago. On behalf of the thousands of cancer patients we've helped in the past, and the thousands more we will fly in the future, we'd like to thank the entire GWA tournament committee for the time and exceptional effort they extend, year after year, for an incredible 20 years now, in order to put together this great event."

## Kids Walk...continued from page 1

This year's walk was especially meaningful to Carolyn and her family as they celebrated her 5 years of survivorship, and also honored the memory of her incredibly brave friend, Harrison Nichols, who became an Angel on February 17, 2008. Both Carolyn and Harrison were long-time CAN patients who traveled to Memorial Sloan-Kettering for cancer treatment. Harrison pioneered many new neuroblastoma treatments in phase I clinical trials. As a result of some of those findings, the doctors at Sloan-Kettering have made great advances with 3F8 antibodies and are now able of-

fer this treatment to twice as many children. Harrison's participation in these trials is just a small part of his legacy and only one of the reasons he'll always be remembered as a hero by people lucky enough to know him, and those who didn't know him but will benefit by his clinical trial experiences.

The walk began at a location across the street from NYC's fabled Tavern on the Green in Central Park West. Walkers wore blue T shirts and included students from about 20 NYC-area schools as well as many families whose children are in treatment at Sloan-Kettering today. Some children were cancer survivors, while many others were walking for kids they knew with cancer. The event drew teenagers, pre-teens and even parents with toddlers— a wonderful cross section of New Yorkers determined to eliminate cancer. Also on hand were several Memorial Sloan-Kettering pediatric oncologists, greeting parents, children and volunteer participants and celebrating success stories, such as young Sebastian Gillen who is in remission from stage IV neuroblastoma and had just finished his second year of college. The walk went on for four-and-a-half miles through Central Park and ended back where it began, with everyone just as excited and motivated as they were at the start.

The Kids Walk was founded in 2001 by Sophie Staples-Vangel and her 8th grade classmates at Packer Collegiate Institute as a homeroom community service project. They were inspired to help pediatric cancer research because Sophie's brother Simon had been undergoing treatment for stage IV neuroblastoma at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. The following year the girls recruited their friends from numerous NYC schools and the event has grown since then. We are happy to note that 10 years after his diagnosis in 1998, Simon remains in remission, is himself now a Packer Collegiate 8th grader, and many of his classmates took part in the walk. This was by far the most successful year to date and CAN joins with all the participants and MSK in thanking everyone for their generosity. We all look forward to another spectacular event next year.

## CORPORATE ANGEL AWARD HONORS AIR FRANTZ AND MEREDITH CORPORATION

The Corporate Angel Award, initiated in 2001, recognizes Corporate Angel Network participating corporations and flight departments for their exceptional contributions to cancer patients. This quarterly award acknowledges each flight department with a full-page ad in Business & Commercial Aviation magazine (B/CA) and receipt of \$2,500 worth of Chevron aviation fuel. B/CA donates the ads' net proceeds to Corporate Angel Network. This year's first and second quarter recipients are Air Frantz and Meredith Corporation. Since 2002, Air Frantz has made more than 70 dedicated cancer patient flights, providing patients with a lift in both body and spirit. Meredith Corporation has made nearly 100 flights since 1986, transporting countless men, women and children to cancer treatment centers across the country.

Co-sponsored by Chevron Global Aviation, NBAA, Safe Flight Instrument Corporation, and Business & Commercial Aviation magazine, this award salutes the successful merger of business activity with social responsibility. Previous Corporate Angel Award winners include: Corning, Inc., American Home Products, International Paper, Schering-Plough, Dow Chemical, Flight Options, Inc., The 401K Company, Verizon, The Ford Motor Company, Limited Brands, ConocoPhillips, PepsiCo, America Online, Inc., AT&T, Bristol-Myers Squibb, The Coca-Cola Company, ConAgra Foods, Wachovia Corporation, Honeywell, Duke Energy, VF Corporation, YUM! Brands, Altria, Textron, AIG, and Intel.



(L to R) Scott Frantz, Dan Smith



Meredith Corporation flight department

### CAN Flight Lines

Published by Corporate Angel Network, a national public charity under IRC §170(b)(1)(a)(vi) and §509(a)(1) that partners with over 500 U.S. corporations and fractional owners, using the empty seats aboard their aircraft to fly cancer patients to recognized treatment centers, free of charge. Financial need is not a factor in eligibility.

Based in White Plains, New York, Corporate Angel Network operates out of offices donated by Westchester County Airport. With the assistance of referring physicians, corporate flight departments, and leading treatment centers, a team of 50 part-time volunteers and five full-time staff arrange nearly 3,000 flights a year.

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## NATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION (NATA) and CAN TEAM UP TO HELP CANCER PATIENTS.

Over the years, fixed base operators (FBOs) have periodically offered fuel discounts for Corporate Angel Network flights with cancer patients onboard. Now CAN, in collaboration with the aviation industries service businesses association, the National Air Transport Association (NATA), is giving FBOs all over the country the opportunity to help cancer patients by providing a fuel discount for any flight with a Corporate Angel Network patient on board. This incentive is especially meaningful now with the high costs of aviation fuel.

As FBOs sign up, they will be listed on the fuel discount page on CAN's website: ([www.corpangelnetwork.org/corporate/fuel.html](http://www.corpangelnetwork.org/corporate/fuel.html)). All of CAN's 500 plus corporations will be informed of this program and encouraged to check CAN's website whenever they're flying a CAN patient to see which FBOs at their destination airport offer fuel discounts for CAN flights.

"We believe this program will increase the number of patients helped, improve fuel sales for the participating FBOs, and show the humanitarian side of NATA and its members." said CAN's Executive Director, Peter Fleiss.

This opportunity was explained in a recent joint letter to all NATA members from NATA's President Jim Coyne and CAN's Executive Director Peter Fleiss. The response has been strong as one by one, FBOs are signing up for the program.

## CAN's FIRST TV PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**T**here's a tongue-in-cheek saying in the world of public relations that goes, "I don't care what you say about me as long as you spell my name right." As Corporate Angel Network has tripled the number of cancer patients we fly over the past eight years, advertising has helped to spread the word of the vital service we offer. Instrumental in this expansion has been the support of major publications through their donation of pro bono public service announcements. These full page four-color advertisements have not only informed cancer patients of our service, they have also resulted in additional corporation signing up to give cancer patients a lift on their business flights.

Recently, CAN received another shot in the arm thanks to the generosity of the Family Circle Cup, a Meredith Corporation annually televised major tennis event. Corporate Angel Network's first televised Public Service Announcement was aired twice each day on April 17, 18, 19, and 20 during ESPN2's viewing of the Family Circle Cup. This helped to disseminate the message of Corporate Angel Network to a wide television audience, and CAN's staff and volunteers join together in thanking Meredith Corporation for their generous gesture on behalf of cancer patients everywhere.

And, yes, they spelled our name right.

## PATIENT LETTER

*Dear Corporate Angels,*

*You're all the best! Please know that the service you provide is so appreciated and life changing. My condition remains stable. I am so blessed!*

*Here's a token of our appreciation. I only wish I lived closer and could volunteer to help you out!*

*Take care,*

*Karen (patient) and Tom Reynolds  
of Caudersport, PA*



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YOUR SUPPORT...  
THEY NEED A LIFT!**

CORPORATE ANGEL NETWORK