

Flight Lines

Aviation Industry Event Contributes \$95,000

The Greater Washington Aviation Open, a charity golf and tennis event held in June near Washington, DC, raised \$95,000 to benefit Corporate Angel Network. Senior aviation leaders from numerous associations, airlines, airports, manufacturers, consultants, businesses, and Congress and Federal agencies attended.

In its 21 years, the GWAO has contributed nearly \$1.5 million to support CAN. Bruce Whitman, Honorary Chairman of the event and President/CEO of FlightSafety International, said the tournament served two important purposes.

“The first, of course, is to further the work of Corporate Angel Network which offers an incredible service to cancer patients who frequently do not have adequate health or sufficient resources to travel by commercial air, often multiple times, for treatment.

“The second,” he said, “is to express, in a concrete way, the industry’s appreciation to CAN for demonstrating that business aviation can be a huge force for good by using its corporate jets in the public interest.”



Representatives from Corporate Angel Network, Greater Washington Aviation Open and FlightSafety.

Paul Bollinger, Director of the GWAO Tournament, said he was heartened by the turnout. “We did remarkably well in terms of the number of participants and money raised considering the current economic conditions the industry is facing,” he said. “The success of the GWAO is a testimony to the industry’s dauntless sense of public responsibility combined with their support of Corporate Angel Network.”

Churchill Grandson Flight Highlights Corporate Help

Winston Churchill III, a cancer patient and former pilot who once flew volunteer humanitarian missions in Great Britain now living in Florida, was returned from treatment in Texas to his home in Palm Beach aboard Corporate Angel Network’s Patient Flight No. 31,000.

Another cancer patient, Susan Polan, who was traveling home from a course of chemotherapy, also was aboard the historic flight from MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Churchill is the grandson of Sir Winston Churchill, the former British Prime Minister. He recalled his role in helping kidney patients by flying donor organs “throughout Northern Europe at all hours in the hope of saving lives. It gave me great pleasure to help in this way,” he said.

Churchill praised the contribution of “large companies that are public-spirited and caring toward cancer patients” by contributing

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Chevron Global Aviation Donates \$25,000

Chevron Corporation has been a staunch supporter of CAN through its co-sponsorship of the Corporate Angel Award, a Chevron initiative. Last month, Chevron Global Aviation donated \$25,000 to Corporate Angel Network in support of the charity’s efforts on behalf of cancer patients, resulting in donations totaling more than \$200,000 since 2001. Peter H. Fleiss, Corporate Angel

Network’s Executive Director, spoke on behalf of CAN’s staff and volunteers when he recognized the significant support offered by the company. “Working with Chevron Global Aviation over the years has been a genuine pleasure,” he said. “The company has been a strong partner in our efforts and we join the many cancer patients they’ve helped in expressing gratitude.”

From The Executive Director

Using empty seats on company jets for the public good could be an effective way to soften criticism of flight operations and build appreciation for the charitable role they can provide.

If every company with a corporate jet developed a program for using their empty seats on business flights to benefit the public, and were willing to talk openly about that effort, criticism of corporate aviation might begin to fade, especially if the talk included specific patient stories.

It would be harder to criticize a company that uses its jet fleet for the public good.

This is a tough period for corporate aviation but times like these often spur development of constructive and long-lasting programs of public service. This could be one of those times.

Peter H. Fleiss

Churchill Grandson Flight...

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lift capacity to Corporate Angel Network. The organization arranges flights for cancer patients to and from treatment in the empty seats of corporate jets.

"The generosity of the more-than-500 companies that have offered seats aboard their corporate aircraft is heart-warming," said Corporate Angel Executive Director

Peter Fleiss. "Business aviation is under heavy fire these days. But the major corporations that provide critically needed transportation to cancer patients traveling for life prolonging treatment, is a wonderful example of the humanitarian side of big business," he said.

CitationShares Fractional Owners Donate Flight Hours For Cancer Patients

Corporate Angel Network announces a new association with CitationShares, a subsidiary of Cessna Aircraft Company. One of the four major players in the private aviation market, CitationShares offers services in fractional jet ownership, jet card membership, corporate solutions and whole aircraft management.

Through its association with CAN, CitationShares customers will now be able to donate flight hours aboard CitationShares jets to a CAN Jet Card account for use to transport cancer patients in need of specialized and life prolonging treatment.

\$50,000 To CAN From Hawker Beechcraft

Continuing a tradition established by its predecessor, Raytheon Aircraft Company, Hawker Beechcraft has donated \$50,000 to Corporate Angel Network, bringing to more than \$200,000 donated to CAN in the past five years. Hawker Beechcraft's new Chairman and CEO, W.W. (Bill) Boisture Jr., expressed the resolve demonstrated by many in the corporate world who support groups such as CAN in a challenging economic environment. "CAN enables patients to receive the best possible treatment while taking the worry,

discomfort and extra cost out of the distant travel for treatment that so many patients must endure," he said. "Further, in a time when the use of business aircraft is under intense scrutiny by the media and our elected officials, this reflects one of many positive contributions made by our industry." CAN's Chairman, Randall Greene, said "Hawker Beechcraft's on-going support of CAN's efforts has made a significant difference in our ability to expand the number of cancer patients we help."

CAN Co-Founder Passes Away

Corporate Angel Network co-founder, Jay Weinberg, died on June 18, 2009 at age 91. After surviving malignant melanoma, Jay became active in many cancer causes culminating with the co-creation of Corporate Angel Network along with Pat Blum and Leonard Greene.

Jay, always energetic, was a major part of CAN's growth and management for 17 years. He was instrumental in creating the initial platform that lead CAN to its current status of flying 200 to 250 cancer patients a month—more than 32,000 flights to date. He cared. He did an exceptional job for CAN's patients. Jay was well liked and respected by CAN's staff and volunteers as well as those in the aviation industry with whom he dealt.



Jay Weinberg

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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Our Volunteers...

CHANCE TO HELP KIDS CALLED BIGGEST MOTIVATOR



Betty Hanswirth

When Betty Hanswirth set out 16 years ago to find “the best place” to volunteer, she quickly decided that work in a hospital gift store wasn’t exactly right. The coffee shop also was not her cup of tea.

“Helping children was my highest priority,” Betty told Flight Lines. “Corporate Angel gave me the opportunity to do that in a completely rewarding and personal way,” she said. The mother of a son and daughter has done “just about every task there is to do

here,” but the work with children who have cancer continues to “fill my heart,” she said.

In many ways, Susan Gilbert had the same reaction. She had a little extra time in her life three years ago, so she went to a volunteer bureau in White Plains and offered the notion that she liked to travel.

“I wasn’t looking for a time-filler,” Susan said. “I needed something worthwhile, something that would stir my emotions.” She said the volunteer organization picked up on the travel idea and mentioned Corporate Angel. Arranging flights was not exactly what she had in mind.

“Even though my commute from Rye is the longest trip I’ve taken with this great organization, I couldn’t be more fulfilled,” Susan said. “When I hear about little kids who are sick, it makes me cry. It’s the wonderful chance to help children that stands out with me.”



Susan Gilbert

Linda Kurzweil’s husband had a strong connection with a company that provided fractional ownership of jet aircraft, and she appreciated the convenience of corporate jets. So her comfort level was high when she joined Corporate Angel six years ago.

“I knew about cancer from personal experience and I understood corporate aviation. When a friend told me CAN was looking for volunteers I jumped at it because the service made so



Linda Kurzweil

much sense and I wasn’t looking for a full-time job,” she said. Soon after Linda joined, however, she realized that her only personal contact with patients would take place over the phone.

“That was a downer at first, but then I began to realize that so many of the volunteers here actually had built dozens of connections, and often friendships, with patients and parents of patients.”

Linda said the organization’s rather spartan workplace can be misleading. “What you see here is a few rooms filled with desks, computers, telephones and progress charts on the wall,” she said. “But what you hear is warm, comforting conversations between callers who need help with transportation, and the capable schedulers at CAN who know how to provide it.”

Linda said the volunteers she works with on every Tuesday all get along famously. “I’ve made great friends here,” she said.

Nine years ago, Sharon Gruman saw a story in the local White Plains paper concerning companies who flew cancer patients. “I had been a space salesman for the Yellow Pages, and I wanted something more compelling, so I called,” she said.

Sharon said she was a bit hesitant at first, but “now I’ll ask for just about anything for our patients.” Her only direct contact with a patient was when she picked up a 4-year-old boy at the airport and drove him to the CAN headquarters. “It was a joy to see him,” she said. “I enjoy working on the phones, but this made it all real.”

As with most of the 50-or-more volunteers who go to “work” at CAN one or two days a week, Sharon’s life has been touched by cancer. “But that is not the motivator,” she said. “Most of the folks who serve here have strong work ethics, and they have a real thing for kids, and that makes volunteering at CAN so much more satisfying than an ordinary job.”



Sharon Gruman

NBAA Fundraising Gala Has New Name, New Focus

The National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) is focusing its entire annual gala fundraising efforts this year on the humanitarian activities of Corporate Angel Network. The event has been renamed the “NBAA/CAN Charity Benefit” and will be held Wednesday evening, October 21 in the Ballrooms of The Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando during the NBAA Convention.

This has been a difficult year for all charities, CAN included. NBAA wants to ensure that cancer patients around the country receive the life-extending treatment they need through the efforts

of Corporate Angel Network working with business aviation.

NBAA is looking for items to be donated for the Benefit’s Live and Silent Auctions. Donations can be made by individuals or companies and donors will be recognized on all printed materials during the event. Live Auction donors will also be announced during the event. Donors will receive a receipt from NBAA Charities acknowledging their charitable donation. NBAA Charities is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization.

Please don’t hesitate to contact NBAA’s Dina Green at dgreen@nbaa.org or at 202-783-9357 with any questions.

Why Patients Turn Down Clinical Trials

(From *The New York Times*)

To the Editor:

It is not surprising that only 3 percent of adult cancer patients participate in clinical trials. Patients must assess their ability to get to a medical facility, which may be located hundreds or even thousands of miles from home. Clinical trials usually require frequent patient visits, sometimes as often as weekly.

The expense and stress of frequent travel, in addition to the risk of exposure to infection associated with crowded commercial travel, are also factors in a patient's decision.

In the last 28 years, more than 500 major American corporations have flown numerous cancer patients in their corporate jets to clinical trials. These patients have benefited from corporate generosity, and we have all benefited from the success of drugs resulting from these trials.

BONNIE GREENE LE VAR
White Plains, Aug. 3, 2009

The writer is communications director for Corporate Angel Network, which offers cancer patients free flights to treatment centers on corporate jets.

Patient Letters

"My son and I are so appreciative of all the volunteers. Thank you for giving your time to help us find a flight so that my son can receive his cancer treatment which isn't available elsewhere. Everyone has been so helpful and nice. Thank you for caring!"

Esther & Aaron M.

"Thank you for your assistance in getting a flight to Sloan Kettering. It made a very difficult situation a little easier. You are all angels in my book."

Steven G.



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