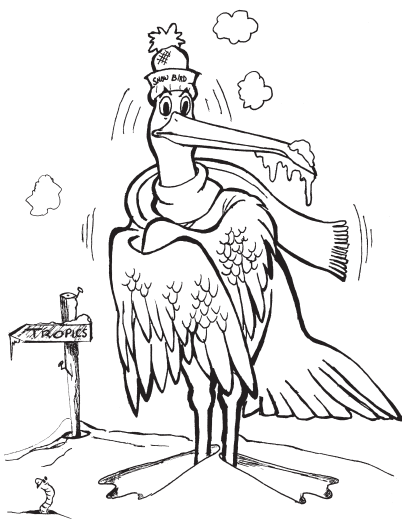


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***“Don’t forget Where You Put
Your para-phernalia.”***



A Message From Your President

In the last issue of *para-phernalia* we included a copy of the statement we had written to the PA Board in April in which we offered some comments about ways to fix what was broken and **“stop the bleeding”** in the wake of the Bridgegate scandal. We are pleased to note that a number of the suggestions we made back then have found their way into the mainstream of the public discussion with regard to potential reforms. As of this writing (mid October), several measures have been adopted by the PA Board as a matter of strengthening the policies and procedures and others are still under consideration.

Then, in the late summer, I was contacted by John Degnan, the new Chairman of the PA Board of Commissioners. ***Please see his introductory message to our retiree community on page 3.*** He asked if he could meet with a small group of retirees to learn about our issues and concerns regarding the prevailing environment in the PA. In addition, he wanted to explore our own career experiences with a focus on what worked - and what did not. There are many difficult issues on his plate these days but his efforts are clearly directed to exploring ways to restore the public trust in the PA – in effect to **“start the healing”**.

A group of PARA Board members met with him and Sean Fitzpatrick, his Chief of Staff, and Karen Eastman, PA Secretary, in late September for about 90 minutes.

The meeting was cordial and energetic. The conversation was free flowing and very constructive. We were able to convey a wide range of ideas about what was special during our time with the PA and why we felt it was such a unique place to work. We stressed the importance of the regional achievements of the PA in the past. We emphasized the value of the role which the PA was created to fulfill in terms of advancing the transportation and commercial strength across the Port District.

Our intent was not to recount “war stories” but rather to suggest that the strength of the PA lies in the skills, commitment and professionalism of the staff at all levels. Among other ideas, we emphasized the importance of providing solid and consistent support and development opportunities for the staff. This is a key for strengthening the overall skills that are needed to carry out the wide range of tasks required for the effective planning and operation of the facilities. We conveyed our candid impressions of the serious issues facing the current staff in the wake of the Bridgegate scandal.

He was most appreciative of our forthright comments and offered to continue

President’s Message - continued page 2

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President's Message - continued from page 1

the conversation with us in the months ahead. We readily agreed to be available when called. Then in mid October, Sean Fitzpatrick met with the full PARA Board and the discussion continued to be candid and forthright in every respect. Within the retiree community there resides an unparalleled set of experiences, perspectives, and professionalism which can serve as a helpful resource and sounding board as the healing process takes shape. If we can help, we will find a way to do so.

These developments are most encouraging. We are hopeful that the efforts to rebuild and re-energize the organization will bear fruit for the benefit of everyone. Time will tell.

We are approaching the holiday season once again. We extend our best wishes to all at this special time of year. It seems to me that these seasons arrive more and more quickly with each passing year. Looking back we ask: "Where does the time go?" In our last issue, we mentioned that PARA celebrated 25 years since its founding in 1989. In addition, the Credit Union, where so many of us were/are a member, celebrated its 50th anniversary (see the article on page 8). Finally, it has now been 50 years since the opening of the World's Fair in 1964. Much of this may seem like yesterday for some of us. We are very grateful to Tom Kearney for his retrospective about the PA's contribution to the World's Fair (see the article on page 4). So much has evolved in the PA's history over these decades. We can talk about it for hours. And some of us do exactly that when we gather at various events with our former colleagues. Each of us has his/her own memories. They linger – and rightfully so. It is a time to savor them.

Once again, on behalf of the PARA board members, we wish you all the very best of this holiday season and we hope that 2015 will be marked with peace and good health for you and your family.

Dave Gallagher, President

IN MEMORIAM – RALPH VERRILL

PARA's Board was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Ralph Verrill on May 8, 2014. Ralph became a member of the PARA Board in June 2007 and served as Secretary for several years until early 2012. He then assumed the role of PARA Vice President from June 2012 until his passing. Ralph joined the Law Department in 1968 and retired as Chief of Aviation and Marine Leases in December 2000. We extend our sincere gratitude for all that he did for us in his quiet and unassuming way. It was a pleasure having him on the Board and his wise advice and expert counsel to all of us will be missed.

INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE to PARA

I am grateful to PARA's leadership for affording me this opportunity to introduce myself to your membership and to express some of my initial observations and aspirations after a little more than two months as Chairman. I am a retiree myself from a company whose values and mission I admired and respected, and I appreciate how privileged I was to work there. I sense the same attitude from those of you I know personally or have met over the past two months. This is no surprise to me, nor should it be to anyone who knows the storied history of the Port Authority, perhaps the greatest public agency of its kind in the country.

An early priority for me was to learn more about that history. Jim Doig's book, *Empire on the Hudson*, was instructive but the real culture and history of the agency are best embodied in the people who actually delivered its accomplishments. So, I was fascinated by the stories and personal experiences of your members with whom I met earlier this week. They are talented, loyal, energetic and articulate individuals, still concerned about the Port Authority and its future, and willing to extend themselves to safeguard that future.

I learned much from them. What stands out to me and what I have said publicly is that there is nothing wrong with the values of the Port Authority; on the contrary, there is much to admire. It remains committed to its original mission and to pursuing it with integrity, competence, creativity and full dedication. I have heard this from some of you; I have seen it in your successors as I have visited the Bus Terminal, bridges and airports over the past few weeks. It is impossible to walk away from those visits without being in awe of the work that is being done by so many incredibly talented people.

That said, however, for unfortunate reasons known to us all, the Port Authority is held today in diminished public esteem. Some of this is due to poor leadership (and a lack of continuity in leadership) over the past couple of decades; some is due more recently to the misbehavior of a small number of individuals whose conduct has unfairly besmirched a great institution and, more unfairly, the people who work, or have worked, for this agency and for the people of this region.

My first goal is to convince a skeptical public that we want to act, and will always conduct ourselves, with complete transparency and a bedrock commitment to ethical behavior in all that we do. With such a great legacy to carry on, why would we let it be otherwise? The Board of Commissioners has already taken steps in this connection and you will see more action to underscore our commitment to the integrity of this institution over the coming months.

Simultaneously, I want to invoke the mandate given to the bi-state "Special Panel on the Future of the Port Authority" created in May by Governors Christie and Cuomo, and due to report its recommendations very early in 2015, to ensure both that we have leadership as good as the agency it serves and that we can return our focus to updating and reinvigorating the mission of the Port Authority as it approaches its second century. In this way, I hope we can restore the Authority to its rightful leadership role in serving the port, commerce, and transportation system of this region.

I look forward to continuing to engage with you in that effort, and appreciate your loyal support of this great agency.

(This message was received in late September following an introductory meeting with PARA Board members at the request of PA Board Chairman John Degnan. Also attending were Sean Fitzpatrick and Karen Eastman.)

John Degnan, PA Chairman

Working Advantage

Port Authority employees and retirees can take advantage of hundreds of discounts at stores, theaters, theme parks, and more through **Working Advantage**, the PA's Employee Discount Program partner.

Visit www.workingadvantage.com,
and use the PA Member ID number – 405042634.

PA Major Player in 1964 -



The 120-foot PA Heliport and Exhibit Building at the Fair, designed by PA staff, housed a heliport, restaurant, cocktail lounge and, at ground level, a circular theater.

It's hard to believe that 50 years have passed since the opening of the 1964-65 New York World's Fair in Flushing Meadows Park. For many, the important role of the PA in the Fair is likely just a faded memory.

Headed by New York master builder Robert Moses, the World's Fair was a dramatic mid-century showcase of U.S. and overseas culture and technology. It ran for two six-month seasons, from mid-April to mid-October each year, and attracted more than 51 million visitors. Admission was a whopping \$2 in 1964 and \$2.50 in 1965.

The PA's participation in the Fair was two-fold, both led by Guy Tozzoli, who handled it alongside his duties as director of the World Trade Department.

At the request of the World's Fair Corporation, the PA took on the job of renting the 40-acre Transportation Section of the Fair. This was about one-quarter of the total Fair area and eventually housed 20 exhibits, including General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, Eastern Airlines, Sinclair, U.S. Rubber, Socony Mobil, Greyhound, Space Park and Hall of Science, among others. Bob Moses

arranged a special reception and celebration for Guy when he returned from Detroit with World's Fair commitments and checks from General Motors and Ford. Their participation was a major boost to the Fair's momentum at a crucial time.

The Port Authority was also responsible for its own facility in the Transportation Section – the 120-foot tall Heliport and Exhibit Building on a 1 ¼ acre site. Designed by PA staff as a four-sided "T," we all called it the "Big T" -- for "Transportation" or "Tozzoli," take your pick. The heliport on top was operated by New York Airways and provided aerial tours of the Fair as well as trips to and from regional destinations. Directly under

the heliport was the "Top of the Fair" restaurant, which accommodated 1,100 and also served as the official club at the Fair. Just below the restaurant level was the "Drinks around the World" cocktail lounge, seating 400. Both facilities were operated by Knott Hotels Corporation. The heliport, restaurant and cocktail lounge were open year-round.

A circular building at ground level housed a 360-degree motion picture theater, 60 feet in diameter, featuring a 13-minute panoramic tour of the Port District. This included a 360-degree view of Yankee Stadium from the pitcher's mound. Another part of this building displayed animated models of the World Trade Center and PATH, major PA initiatives at the time.

To handle these two World's Fair assignments, both resounding successes, Guy headed a small team in Room 607 of the old Port Authority Building. Neil Lynch and Tom Donovan were rentals agents for the Transportation Section of the Fair. Don Mills led the physical planning activities, primarily for the PA

Continued top of next page

65 New York World's Fair

facility. Other staff members included Fran Miller, Ray VanderVliet, Don Burns, Nancy Buckley, Ruth Parkinson, Pat Frisone, Pete Ciano, Al Pettenati, Fred Wilken, Bob Dengler, George Rossi, Ray Monti, George Okunis, Frank Boyce, John Varriano, Lee Abbey, Anu Lacis, Jeanne Link, Varsi Tahos, Joan Pagano and me.

Incidentally, the Big T building is still there in Flushing Meadows Park (one of the few surviving structures from the Fair remaining). There's no heliport or theater now, but the "Terrace on the Park" offers catered events in the restaurant space. After 50 years, the building's a mute but impressive reminder of the Fair -- and the good old days at the Port Authority.



Tom Kearney, Ret. 1989

The PA's World's Fair staff at a special lunch. How many of these old-timers do you recognize?

Board Highlights

The second Quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors was held on April 2, 2014 in the Times Square Hall at the Port Authority Bus Terminal. Reports of the Committees of the Board were given. Director Isaacs reported a quiet quarter with dues continuing to come in and a very few expenses. Our balance has increased as a result of new membership. Special thanks went to Director Hoffmann and our webmaster, Joe Sansevero, for categorizing and posting all the articles on "bridgetgate". Several emails were received thanking PARA for providing a venue for keeping everyone informed. Director Lombardi reported that an effort was made to recruit new members and that approximately 100 mailings had been returned to date increasing the membership to about 4125. The PARA website continues to be popular with over 1 million hits over a six-month period. The Nominating Committee identified five persons for 3-year memberships to the Board to be voted on at the Annual Board meeting in July.

The Annual Meeting of PARA and the third Quarterly meeting were held on July 24 at the Port Authority Bus Terminal. At the Annual meeting, Cedrick Fulton, Director of Tunnels, Bridges & Terminals gave a presentation on the upcoming renovations proposed for the Bus Terminal and plans for a new parking and idling facility and eventually for a new facility. Board members suggested that there may likely be a number of retirees who would be willing to volunteer their services in this effort and that PARA could be the catalyst in getting that word out should it be considered by the Port Authority. It was reported that all 16 union agreements within the Port Authority have expired and the unions have been working without contracts for some time. The annual election results are as follows: Dave Gallagher, Frank Lombardi, Rae Ann Hoffmann and Holly Blausler were re-elected to 3-year terms in accordance with the by-laws. The following new members were elected to 3-year terms: Enoch Lipson, Peter Rinaldi, Steve Borrelli, Herb Ouida and John Fitzpatrick. The Board officers were re-elected as follows: President Dave Gallagher, Vice-President Rae Ann Hoffmann, Treasurer Bob Isaacs and Secretary Jerri Raczynski.

At the third Quarterly Meeting of PARA it was reported that the Association's finances are healthy and stable as a result of a slow but continuing increase in memberships. Director DeLaura is working on an index of articles from all the PARA Newsletters and we have copies of every Newsletter since inception of the organization in 1987 EXCEPT the very first issue. If anyone happens to have this issue, we would be grateful for a copy. The NY State legislature passed an amendment to the statute applying to New York State employees, raising the percentage of employee/retiree contributions to healthcare. The NY State Retirees Association appealed an adverse trial court ruling and arguments were heard in the Appellate Division in September. As of this writing, the judges are considering the arguments with a decision expected some time in November. While Port Authority health benefits are NOT controlled by the statute, some of the issues raised in the case and their resolution could serve as precedent in a Port Authority situation. PARA will continue to monitor this action.

Jerri Raczynski

THINKING ABOUT A NEW OR PART-TIME JOB IN RETIREMENT?

Here is a list of links to job sites for Mature workers:

DinosaurExchange.com – Lists short- and long-term job opportunities for what it terms “dinosaurs” (retirees with experience), including consultant and management positions all over the world, some in developing countries.

RetiredBrains.com – Offers nationwide job listings searchable by industry or state.

RetireeWorkForce.com – Hosts virtual job fairs as well as job postings and resume services.

RetirementJobs.com – Certifies employers as offering a friendly work environment for older workers.

Seniors4Hire.org – Seniors can apply for jobs, submit a resume, or post a description of their ideal job.

WorkForce50.com – Lists jobs exclusively from employers who are enthusiastic about hiring workers over age 50.

YourEncore.com – Connects retired scientists, engineers, and product developers with consulting and short-term assignments.

ExperienceWorks.org – Is a national, nonprofit organization that offers training, employment, and community service opportunities for mature workers. This includes a variety of programs designed to help mature individuals enter the workforce, secure more challenging positions, move into career areas, or supplement their incomes.

NOWCC.org (National Older Worker Career Center) – Provides professional, technical, and administrative work opportunities to older workers through the EPA’s Senior Environmental Employment (SEE) Program.

Resume Tips for Retired Job Seekers

Polish Up Your Resume – Presentation matters. Make sure your resume is polished and well presented. You don’t want your resume to “look” old-fashioned.

Target Your Resume – Take the time to write a targeted resume that is customized so that it specifically highlights the experience you have that is specifically relevant to the job you are applying for.

Limit Your Related Experience – Limit the related experience (related to the job you are applying for) you include on your resume to 15 years, leaving older jobs off your resume entirely or include, without dates, in another section.

Your Other Experience – Leave your other experience off your resume or list it without dates in an Other Experience or More Experience category.

Don’t Include Dates – Don’t include high school and college graduation dates or dates for any other courses, or professional development classes. If you have a college degree, don’t list high school on your resume.

Consider a Functional or Combination Resume – Consider using a functional resume, which lists your accomplishments at the top of your resume, or a combination resume, rather than a chronological resume, which lists your experience in date order.

Highlight Your Skills – Promote the fact that you’re up-to-date with current technology, by including the latest programs you’re familiar with and leaving off out-of-date technology.

Show You’re Connected – Include a link to your LinkedIn profile on your resume. It will show hiring managers you’re engaged in current means of communicating and networking.

Be Prepared to Email Your Resume – Keep in mind that most resumes are emailed or uploaded to a company web site or job site to apply for jobs. Email a copy of your resume to yourself, to be sure your formatting doesn’t get lost during the transmission. Review these email etiquette guidelines to be sure you’re following the right protocol for emailing your resume.

(Reprinted from Retired Public Employees Association August 2014 Newsletter)

Do you know a PA retiree, or a current PA employee about to become a retiree, who would benefit from joining PARA? Why not take this opportunity to introduce them to PARA and invite them to join?

2015 Membership Dues Now Due

Your dues, plus any additional donation you are able to make, helps PARA to keep you informed about issues of interest to you. Your dues provide the funds required to cover the cost of our Newsletter, maintaining our website, contact with Albany and, other retiree organizations, and required special mailings and of course our newest endeavor, eBlast. Take a moment to write a check in the amount of \$10.00, which covers the annual dues from January 1 through December 31, 2015. Make check payable to: Port Authority Retirees Association, Inc. and fill in the required information on the enclosed self mailer, insert your check, seal it, add postage and send it on its way.

Thank you for your continued support of PARA.

Bob Isaacs, Treasurer

PORT AUTHORITY RENAMES EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IN HONOR OF THE LATE ERNESTO L. BUTCHER

Date: Sep 17, 2014 **Press Release Number:** 186-201

Agency Honors Former Chief Operating Officer with Facility Tribute

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey announced today the renaming of its Emergency Operations Center in honor of dedicated and distinguished public servant, Ernesto L. Butcher. The "Ernesto L. Butcher Emergency Operations Center" is a tribute to Mr. Butcher's legacy as a tireless public servant and exemplary leader. Ernesto Butcher's career at the Port Authority spanned more than 40 years. He started at the Port Authority in 1971 as a Management Trainee and progressively rose through its ranks as General Manager of the George Washington Bridge; General Manager of the Port Authority Bus Terminal; Assistant Director of Operations in Tunnels, Bridges & Terminals; Deputy Director, General Services Department; Deputy Director, Interstate Transportation Department; Director, Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals; and Deputy Executive Director for Operations. In 1999, Butcher was appointed the Port Authority's Chief Operating Officer, with broad responsibility for the agency's airports, ports, tunnels, bridges and terminals, and the PATH system, as well as security and public safety operations. The Port Authority Board of Commissioners resolution states: "On September 11, 2001, Ernesto Butcher led Port Authority staff and World Trade Center visitors and tenants in the evacuation of the World Trade Center site without regard for his own personal safety, and in the aftermath of the attack was a symbol of hope and courage for the Port Authority, providing a constant presence and calm demeanor, providing leadership and guidance in efforts to recover and restore operations, providing comfort for the survivors, and becoming in the eyes of staff a transcendent force, rising above the tragedy and chaos of that terrible day." "Ernesto Butcher was an exemplary public

servant who dedicated his professional life to this agency and this region. He led the Port Authority through some of its darkest days with quiet courage and inspiring confidence in the future," said Port Authority Chairman John Degnan. "It is only fitting that we dedicate our Emergency Operations Center to a man who met the crisis of 9/11 with extraordinary poise and an unshakeable faith in the ability of this agency, and this community, to rebuild." "Ernesto Butcher in many ways embodied the spirit of the men and women that work at the Port Authority," said Port Authority Vice Chairman Scott Rechler. "A committed, calm and thoughtful public servant that this organization was lucky to have. His role during the horrific attacks on 9/11, as well as leadership in the days and months afterwards will not be forgotten and it is only fitting that we rename the Emergency Operations Center in his honor." CONTACT: Port Authority of New York and New Jersey 212-435-7777. Founded in 1921, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey builds, operates, and maintains many of the most important transportation and trade infrastructure assets in the country. The agency's network of aviation, ground, rail, and seaport facilities is among the busiest in the country, supports more than 550,000 regional jobs, and generates more than \$23 billion in annual wages and \$80 billion in annual economic activity. The Port Authority also owns and manages the 16-acre World Trade Center site, where construction crews are building the iconic One World Trade Center, which is now the tallest skyscraper in the Western Hemisphere. The Port Authority receives no tax revenue from either the State of New York or New Jersey or from the City of New York. The agency raises the necessary funds for the improvement, construction or acquisition of its facilities primarily on its own credit. For more information, please visit <http://www.panynj.gov>.

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September 11, 2014 marked the 13th anniversary of the terrorist bombing that destroyed the WTC and killed 84 PA employees. At this year's services, PA Board Chairman John Degnan said: "For most of you, the memory of your friends and co-workers at the Port Authority remains vibrant and current. For those of us who did not know them, we can see their courage and commitment reflected in their surviving colleagues, who have carried on the important work of this agency with a determination fired by the memory of those precious lives lost."



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...look inside

For your latest issue of para-phernalia!

XCEL Federal Credit Union celebrated its 50th anniversary in June.

So much has changed over these past five decades. When we opened up shop, we only offered basic savings accounts and worked out of a desk drawer. Now we offer Remote Mobile Check Deposit from your smart phone, Shared Branching (+5,-000) and ATM's (+38,000), CDs, Money Markets, First Mortgage, Home Banking, Auto Loans, and so much more. Now, for the fourth year in a row, we have been named, One of the Best Places to Work in New Jersey! And, we were named Credit Union of the Year for NJ for 2012! And, best of all, we just earned our first national award. The National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU) has named us the 2014 Credit Union of the Year!



Until the attack on September 11, 2001 we were headquartered in the World Trade Center (Tower 1 – 39th Floor), but now we call North Jersey our home. But from that tragedy came a new way to do banking. On September 10th of that year, about 4-7% of our transactions were done remotely by our members - meaning through home banking or phone banking, or ATMs. Then the tragedy struck. Our members still needed to access their money even though the building was no longer there. So, they taught themselves how to use their computers to access their accounts. Today, nearly 91% of transactions are done through their touchtone phones, the internet, their smart phones, our shared branching and shared ATMs, or through our own advanced ATMs. It's pretty amazing to see. It shows the resilience of our nation and our members. Your money is insured by the National Credit Union Administration Share Insurance Fund (NCUASIF) for up to \$250,000. We offer every service a bank does with little or no fees including **KASASA REWARDS CHECKING!**

We are the official Credit Union of the Port Authority of NY/NJ. Retirees are welcomed to join XCEL, and there is no cost whatsoever

**Tom Quigley, Director of Marketing
 XCEL Federal Credit Union**